

Rosency



Philip Bliss.

The most Pleasant

History of Tom

A LINCOLNE, that renowned Soldier, the RED-ROSE KNIGHT, who for his Valour and Chivalry, was surnamed *The Boste of England.*

Shewing his Honourable Victories in Forraine Countries, with his strange Fortunes in the Fayrie Land: and how hee mirtred the faire *Anglyora*, Daughter to *Prestre John*, that renowned Monarke of the World.

Together with the Liues and Deaths of his two famous Sons, the *Blacke Knight*, and the *Fayrie Knight*, with diuers other memorable accidents, full of delight.

The Seventh Impression.



LONDON,
Printed by A. M. and are to be sold by Francis Faulkner,
and Francis Cowles, 1635.



TO THE RIGHT WOR-
SHIPFULL, SIMON WORTEDGE
of Okenberrie in the County of Huntington, Es-
quire: health, happiness and prosperity.



He generall report and considera-
tion (right Worshipfull) of your
exceeding curtesie, and the great
friendship which my parents have
heretofore found at the hands of
your renowned Father do imbold-
den me to present vnto your Wor-
ship these my vnpolish't Labours;
which if you shall vouchsafe to cast a fauourable glance
vpon, and therein find any part or parcell pleasing to
your vertuous mind, I shall esteeme my trauell most
highly honoured. The History (I present) you shall find
delightfull, the matter not offendiu'e to any: only my skil
in penning it very simple, and my presumption great, in
presenting so rude a piece of worke to so wise a Patron;
which I hope your Worship will the more beare with,
and account the rather to be pardona'le, in that the fault
proceedeth from a good meaning.

*Yours Worships deuoted, and
poore Country-man,*

R. L.



The Pleasant Historie of TOM
A LINCOLNE,
the RED-ROSE Knight: for his
valour and Chivalrie, surnamed
the Boast of England.

CHAPTER. I.

*How King Arthur loued faire Angellica the Earle of
Londons Daughter: and likewise of the birth
of Tom a Lincolne.*

WE as King ARTHUR were
the Empertiall Diadem of England,
and by his Chivalrie had purchased many
famous Victories, to the greate re-
nowne of this mayden Land, / see o^r
beheld the order of the Rounde Table,
and selected many worthy Knights to
attend his presence: of whose glistering
renowne many ancient Victories doe
record, and witness to all instant ages.

This worthy Prince, upon a time intending to visit the citie
of London, with some few number of his Knights came and
feasted with Andregius, being at that time Earle of London;
whose herte (as then) was not chieely repleinid w^t most de-
licate fayre, but graet w^t a number of beautefull Ladys:
who gane such a pleasing entertainment to King Arthur
and his Knights, that they were ransched w^t pleasure, and

Tom a Lincolne

quite forgot the sound of martiall Drums, that had wont to summon them forth to the fields of honour: Amongst these glorious tropes of London Ladies, Angellica the Carles won: for even as the Glorie Spining Swone in a Winters frosty night, surpasseth the brightest of the twinkling Stars: so faire Angelica's sweet features exceeded the rest of the Ladies: whereby King Arthur was so intangled in the snare of her divine excellency. He that before delighted to tread a meare trame after Bellonas Drums, was now constrained to well straine the strings of a Lovers Note, as found a Soul distaled heart to lode in the closture of her brest: and no compasse was Angelica. So upon a time as he stood looking out of his Chamber window, he espied the Pictures of his faire fitting in a Garden under a Bower of Vines, prettily picking the roses with her delicate hands, and tooke such pleasant paines in that mayden like exercise, that the well coloured blood in her face began to wate warme, and her cheeks to obtaine such excellent beauty, that they seemed like two purple Roses in a mazebowyn her, and soone for a time senselesse through the extreame passion he tooke in beholding her beauty: But at last, recouering his senses, he spake to her in this manner.

Oh faire divine Angelica, Natures sole wonder, then excellent ornament of Beauty, thy lonely face painted with a crimson eye, thy Roscall Cheeks surpassing Snow in white, net intangled my priding heart: whereby it is so; enermore dassey Haire which shinc like the Ropes, glittering in the Sun, had nevere twinkling before my tamely eyes, then had somers vaine imaginacions. Thus, and in like manner, complized the King unto himselfe, taking by all meanes possible

the Red-rose Knight.

possible to excide Levers fire from his brest. But the more he strove to abandon it, the more it increased: and seeing no politicke might preuaile, but that this burning torment most of foyes be quenched with her celestiall love hee descended from his Chamber, and went houldly into the Garden: where taking Angelica by the hand as shee late upon a bed of Violets, which as then grew under the Arbeour, in this manner began to exort her.

Faire of all faires, (sayd the King) divine and beauteous Sparagap, faire Flower of London, know that I haue my abode in the Fathers house, thy beauty hath so conuoyed my affections, and so bereaved me of my liberty, that vnalesse thou boughst to cool my ardent bodes with a boilling graunt of thy loue, I am like to dye a languishing death, and this Countrey England of force must lose him, that hath all her boundes with many triumphant victories: therefore sweete Angelica, if the hard heart be so obdurate, that the teares of my true loue may nothing mollifie, yet take pity on thy Countrey, that through thy cruelty, shee lose not her wanton glory, and be made unhappy, by the losse of her Soueraigne: thou seest my diuine Angelica) how I, that haue made Princes scope, and Kings to humble when I haue crownde, doe now submissively reioyde my high honour to thy fete, either to be made happy by thy loue, or unhappy in thy hate, that in time to come, Children may either blesse, or curse thee: Of these two, consider which thou wouldest perferre either with cruelty to kill mee, or with clemencie to preserue mee.

This unexpeted request of the King, scarned Angelica, that her Cheeks were gayned with blushing shame, and like a basifall Maiden (for a faire) stood silent, not knowing in what manner to answe him, considering he was King of England, and the but Daughter to an Earle: But at laist, when shame and loue had a while strode together in her heart, shee replied in this sort,

Hast mighty King (sacred shee) if your entertainment in my Fathers house hath bene honorable, seeke not the scule dñe, now of his Daughter, nor preferre to llemish the bed of her boughmistic with the least thought of yem vouchest office: the

Tom a Lincoln

Letter of which sweet Jewelle, is a torment to my soule more
worse then death. Conquer with your selfe (most worthy
Prince) the blacke scandall that it may bring unto your name
and honour, having a Duxne, a most vertuous and loyall Prince,
Thynke upon the staine of your mariage bed, the wrongs
of your wedded phare, and lacking infamie of your olde glo-
rie, for this I vowe (by Dianes bright maiestie) before I will
yield the conquest of my virginitie to the spoyle of such unchaste
desires, I will suffer moe torment, then mans heart can ima-
gine : therefore (most mighty Soueraigne) exile your baron-
tens suite, for I will not loose that matchlesse Jewell, for all
the treasure the large Ocean containes : And in speaking these
words she departed thence, and left the loue-sick King in the
Labour complaining to the empit ayre : where after hee had
numbered many determinations together, this hee purposed:
Neuer to cease his suite, till hee had gained what his soule so
much desired : for continually at the break of day, when Titans
beautie began to shone, and Auroraes blash to appere, would
hee always send to her Chamber winnow the sweetest Hu-
mors that could bee denised : thinking thereby to obtaine her
large promis, besetting rather an Empresse then the Daugh-
ter of an Earle, profering such kindnesses, that if hee had a hart
of Iron, yet could shee not chuse but relent and requite his
cortesies : for what is it that time will not accomplish, having
the hand of a King set therunto.

Twelve weary daies King Arthur spent in wooing of An-
gellica, before hee could obtaine his hearts happynesse, and his
wives content : at the end of which time hee was as pigant to
his will, as is the tender twig to the hand of the Husbandman.
But how their secret meeting required a politicke to keepe
their p[ri]uie loues both from King Arthurs Curtes, and from
old Androgius, Angellica, of other : and that their secret
loves might long time continue without im- freud of any partie
whatsoeuer, this denice then confirmed : that Angellica shoulde
desire liberty of her father, to spend the remaine of her life in
the service of Diana, like one that abandoned all earthly van-
tie, honouring fyne chalsty and religiouse life : So, with a
denuote

the Red-rose Knight.

demure countenance, and a sober grace, she went unto her
father, and obtained such leue at his hands, that he willingly
considred that she shold live as a professed Dame, in a
monasterie that the King before time had builded in the Cittie
of Lincoln ; and so furnishing her sooth with such necessaries
as her state required, he gaue her his blessing, and so committed
her to Dianas service.

But now Angellica being no sooner placed in the monasterie
and chosen a Sister of that fellowship, but King Arthur many
times visited her in so secret a maner, and so disguisedly, that
no man suspected their pleasant meetings: but so long lasted they
the joyes of loue, that in the end the Sun grew great bellied,
and bothe King Arthurs quittance sealed in her womb, and at
the end of forty weekes shee was delivered ; where in presence
of the Midwife, and one moe whom the King largely recompensed
for their secrecy, shee was made a happy mother of a godly
son, whom King Arthur caused to be wrapped in a Mantle of
greene silke, bring a purse of Gold about his necke, and so caus-
ing the Midwife to beare it into the field, and to lay it at a Chep-
herds gate neare adjoyning to the Cittie, in hope the old man
should solster it as his own: by which meane shis Angellica's dis-
honour might be kept secret from the world, and his owne dis-
grace from the murmuring reports of the vulgar people.

This his commandement was so speedily performed by the
Midwife, that the very next moring she stol the young Infant
from his mothers keeping, and bothe it secretly to the place ap-
pointed, there laying it downe vpon a turke of greens grasse: it
seemed prettily to smile, turning his chyall eyes vp towards
the elements, as though it soeknew its owne good forture.
This being done, the Midwife withdraw her selfe some little
distance from that place, and hid her selfe closely behind a well
growne Oak, diligently marking what shold betide the com-
fortlesse Infant: But long shee had not there remained, but
there stoked such a number of little Birds about the young
harmlesse Babe, and made such a chirping melody, that it fell
into a silent chamber, and slept as sweetly as though it had bee[n]
laid in a bed of softest silke.

By this time, the golden Sonne began to glister on the
W
Moun,

Tom a Lincolne

spontaines top, and his Alter Luna to withdrawe her waterish countenance: at which time the pleasant Shepherds began to tune their Spinning notes, and to repayre unto their folde Shephe, according to their wonted manner: Amongst which crew of lusty Swaynes, old Antonio appoached forth of his Gate with a chearefull countenance, whose Beard was as white as polished Silver, so like to Snowe lying upon the Shepherds spontaines: this boynge Shepherd no sooner espied Angelicas swete Babe lying upon the grane Hilllocke, but immediately heeooke it vp; and discouering circumspicly every parcell of the richmentes wherewithal it was wrapped, at last found out the Purse of Gold whiche the King had tyed unto the Childe necke, wherewithal the Shepherd so exceedingly receyved, that for the time he stood as a man ravished with pleasure, and was not able to remoue from the place where he stood: but yet at the last, thinking with himselfe that Heaven had sent him that good fortune, not onely giving him Riches, but withall a Sonne, to be a comfote to him in his latter yeares: so bearing it in to his old wife, and withall the Purse of Gold, and the rich Mantle, with the other thinges: who at the sight whereof was as highly pleased as her Husband, when hee found it first: so being both agreed to foller and bring it vp as their owne, conserning that Nature never gaue them in all their life any childe, incontinently they cauled it to be christened, and cauled by the name of TOM A LINCOLNE (after the Towne where it was found) a name wch fitteing so; it, in that they knew not wch were his true parents.

But now speake we againe of the spidwise, that after shee had beheld how kindly old Antonio received the young Infant, she returned backe unto Angelicas Chamber, whome shee soone bitterly lamenting the losse of her tender Babe, thinking that some Rayle nymph had stolne it away: but such was the kind comfote which the smooth-tonged midwife gaue her in that extremity, whereby her sorrow seemede the lesse, and her misstrau-
full feare recoured into smiling hope: yet neither wold the King, nor the spidwise at any time whatsoeuer, make knowne unto her what was become of her littell Sonne, but aduising her of with deluges and foudre strokes, left having intelligence of

the Red rose Knight.

his aboad, she shalld (through kinde loue, and naturall affection) see him, and so discouer their Loues practises.

Thus liues the most faire Angelica many dayes in great griefe, wlling his returne, and desiring Heaven that the Deities might be so favourable, that once againes before the fatall Hyster had finisched her life she might beholde her Infants face: so whose presence her very soule thirked.

Here will we leave the solitary Lady comfotless and with-
out company (except it were the King, that sometimes visited her
by stealth) and report what happened to Tom a Lincolne in the
Shepherds hentes.

Chap. II.

Of the manner of *Tom a Lincolnes* bringing vp, and how hee first came to be called the *Red rose Knight*: with other thinges that hapned to him.

 Keat was the wealth that old Antonio gathered together, by meanes of the Treasure hee found about the Infants attire, whereby hee became the richest in all that Country, and purchase such Lands and Luyngs, that his supposed heire (for wealth) was deemed a fit Match for a Knights Daughter: Yet so all this his bringing vp was but meane, and in a horneyle sort; so after he had passed ten yeares of his age he was set to keepe Antonioes Shephe, and to sollore his husbandry, whereby he grew strong and hardy, and continually gaue himselfe to painfull endeavours, imagering and deuising haughty and great enterpryses: yet notwithstanding was of honest and vertuous conditions, well featur'd valiant, active, quick, and iuryble, sharp-witted, and of a ripe iudgement: hee was of a valiant and invincible courage, so that from his Cradle and infancie, it seemed he was bowed to Mars, and martall exploits. And in his use and maners is deciphered the image of true Nobility: so though hee obscurely liued in a Countrey Cottage, yet had he a superiouris mind, arming at Rats and mantes

Tom a Lincolne

Sir, bearing in his brest the princely thoughts of his Father. For on a time keeping Cattell in the field among other young men of his age and condition, he was chosen (in sport by them) for their lord or knight, and they to attend on him like dutifull Servants: and although this their election was but in play, yet he whose spirits were tauched with great and high matters, first, procure them to sware to him loyalty in all things, and to obey him as a King, where, or when it should please him in any matter to command them: to which they all most willingly condescended. Thus after they had solemnly taken their oathes, he perswaded them to leave that base and servile kind of life, seeking to serve in War, and to follow him, being the Generall: the which through perswasion they did, and so leaving their Cattell to their Fathers and Masters, they assembled all together, to the full number of a hundred at the least: unto whom he severally gaue certaine Red roses, to be woyls for colours in their Hats, and commanded them, that ever after he should be called the Red-rose Knight. So in this manner departed he with his followers unto Barnsdale Heath, where they pitched by Tents, and lied long time upon the robberies and spoyles of Passengers, insomuch that the whole Country was greatly molested by them.

This disorderly life so highly displeased the Parents of these wraulke Outlawes, that many of them dyed wylde geese: but especially of all other, old Antonio took it in ill part, coniecting how dearely hee loued him, and how tenderly hee had brought him up from his infancie: therefore he purposed to practise a meane to call him from that basill kind of life, if it might possible be brought to passe: so in his old daies undertaking this taske, hee trauellid towards Barnsdale Heath: into which being no sooner entred, but some of the ruder sort of these Outlawes ceased upon the old man, and without any further violence, brought him before their Lord and Captain: who at the first sight knew him to be his Father (as hee thought) and therfore bid him most kindly, giving him the best entertainment that hee could devise: where, after they had some small time conferred together, the good old man brake out into these speeches.

the Red-rose Knight.

Oh thou degenerate (quoth he) from natures kind: Is this thy duty to thy fathers age, thus disobediently to live, trayning thy naturall Country with unlawfull spoyles? Is this the coniort of mine age? Is this thy loue unto thy Parents, whose tender care hath bene ever to advance thy estate? Canst thou behold these milk-white haire of mine all to rent and tosse, whiche I haue violently martyred in thy absence? Canst thou indure to see my dim eyes almost sightlesse throughe age, to drop downe teares at thy disobedient feet? Oh wherefore hast thou infringed the lawes of nature, thus cruelly to kill thy fathers heart with griefe, and to end his daies by thy vniuersall life? Returne, returne deare child, banish from thy brest these base aotions, that I may say, I haue a vertuous Sonne: and be not like the vicerous vrowd, that works the untimely death of their Parents. And speaking these wordes, griefe so exceedeth the boundes of Reason, that he stod silent, and begining againe to speake, teares trickled from his eyes in such abundance, that they stayed the passage of his speech: the which being perceived by the Red-rose Knight, he humbly fell upon his knees, and in this sort spake unto good Antonio:

Most deare and reverend Father, if my offence doe seeme odious in your eyes, that I deserue no forgiuenesse, then here behold now your pore inglorious Son, laying his brest open, ready prepared to receive deathes remouable stroke from your aged hands, as a due punishment for this my disobedient crime: but to be reclaimed from this honourable kind of life (I count it honorabile, because it ralleth of manhood) first shall the Son bring day from out the Western heauens, and the Silver Moone lode her brightness in the Eastern wares, and all things else against both kind and nature turne their blunted course.

Well then (quoth Antonio) if thy resolution be such, that neither my bitter teares, nor my faire intreaties may prevail to withdraw thy vaine folly, then know (thou most vngratings impe) that thou art no Son of mine, but sprung from the bowels of some vntamed Tyger, or wild Lionesse, else wouldest thou humbly submit thy selfe to my reverent perswasions, from whence thou camest I know not, but sure thy brest harbours the tyranny of loue monstrosus Tyrant, from whose loynes

Tom a Lincoln

thou art naturally descended. Thou art no trait of my body for I found this (in thy infancie) lying in the fields, cast out as a prey for cowering fowles, ready to be devoured by hunger-starved dogs: but such was my pitie towards the, that I took thee up and ever since have fostered thee as mine owne chyl: but now, such is thy babbyled folly, that my knaute certe, he is reuerted with extreme ingratitude, which sin above all others, the immortall powers of Heauen doe condemne, and the very Devils themselves doth hate: therefore like a Serpent, henceforth will I spit at thee, and never cease to make incessant prayers to the justfull Heavens, to revenge this thy monstrous disobedience.

These wo:ds being ended, he gaue such an extreme sigh, that his very heart brake with griefe, and he immediatly dyed in the presence of the Red-rose Knight. So; whose death, hee made moe sorrowfull lamentation, then Niobe did for her seua Sonnes. But in recompence of old Antonioes kind losse, that presented his infancie from the fury of rauerous howles, he intonched him most kately in the Cittie of Lincolne, whose body hee sent thither by certaing Passengers whom hee had taken, and withall a thousand pounds in creatures, to be beamed upon a great Bell to be rung at his Funerall, which Bell hee caused to be called Tom a Lincolne, after his owne name, where to this day it rematheth in the same Cittie: These Passengers being as then rich Merchants of London, having receiued the dead body of old Antonio, and withall the creature, went with all speed unto Lincolne, and performed every thing as the Red-rose Knight had appoluted.

The death of this good old man not onely caused a generall sorrow through the whole Cittie, but stroke such an extreme griefe to old Antonioes wife, that she within few daies yielde her life to the remoulesse stroke of the frowning destinies, and was buried in the same graue where her Husband was intombed: whose deaths wee will now leau to be mourned by their dearest friends, and likewise, for breuities sake, passe over many Stratagems which were accomplished by the Red-rose Knight and his followers upon Barnsdale Heath, and returne to King Arthur and his Knights, flourishing in the English Court.

CHAP.

the Red-rose Knight

CHAP. III.

Of the first Conquest of Portingale by the Red-rose Knight, and how hee was the first that euer triumphed in the Cittie of London.

 The report of Tom a Lincolnes practises grewe so generall amongst the bulgar sort of people, that at last it came to King Arthurs eares, who imagined in his princely mind, that he was sprang of his blood, and that hee carried losty thoughts of honour planted in his brest, though shrowded under a Countrey life: therefore, through kind nature, hee purposed to haue him ressident in Court with him, that he might daily see his lively sparkes of honour shew their resplendent brightnesse, yet in such obscurity, that he shold not know the smallest motion of his parentage; therefore hee called together three of his approued Knights, namely Lancelot du Lake, Sir Tristram, and Sir Triamore, and gaue them in charge, if it were possible, to fetch the Red-rose Knight unto his Court, of whose aduenturous exploits hee hath heard so many times reported: and withall hee gaue them generall Pardon, sealed with his priuie Seal, for him and all his lawlesse followers.

This Commission, being receiued by the three worthie Knights, they with all speed armed themselves in rich Coylets, and strong habillments of war, and so rode towards Barnsdale Heath; where being no sooner come, and delivered their message from the King, but the Red-rose Knight gaue them an honourable welcome, and so thare dotes most royally sealed them under large Cannasse Tents, wherein they slept as surely, as they had been in King Arthurs Court, or in a strong Castle of war.

After this, Tom a Lincolne selected out a hundred of his resolute Followers, such as he best liked of, and com: with Sir Lancelot, and the rest to the English Court, where King Arthur

met

Tom a Lincolne

not onely gave him a friendly entertainment, but also installed him one of his Knights of the Round-table : and withall proclimed a solemane Turnement, that shold be holden in the halle of this new made Knight : to which Turnement, assybled from other countrys, many Princes, Barons, and Knights of high honour, which behaved themselves most nobly, and won great commendacions of every beholder : but specially the Red-rose Knight, who so that day, won as chiefe Champion against all commers. In that Turnement, on first dayes daid of his Knighthood, where onely by his valour and prowesse hee overthrew thre Kings, and thirtie other Knights, all famoured for Chivalry: whereby he obtained such grace in the English court, that he had by the King a paire of golden Sparrs put upon his fest, and generally of the whole assembly, he was accounted one of the brenest Knights that then lived in the world.

But now marks, how frowaitng Fortune ended their Triumphes with unlucke Reuies : so; the same day before the Knights had unbuckled their Armoires, there arrived a Mesenger, who certiffid King Arthur, how his Ambassadour was unjastly done to death in the Portingale Court, (which was an A contrarie both to the Faith of Princes, and the Law of Armes:) So; whose death King Arthur grewe so enraged, that he swore by the Honour of his bright Renowne, and by the golden Spur of the knighthod, the Portingales shoulde repent that inhumane violence, with the death of many thousand guiltlesse soules; and that babes unborne, shoulde have just cause to curse the first contriver of that unius mother : therfore with all speede he mustred vp a mighty Army of Souldiers, and (because he was continually molested with home-bred Mutinies, and treacherous rebellions, the which himselfe in person of force woulde pacifie) appointed the Red-rose Knight as chiefe Generall over the Army mustred for Portingale. In which service, hee accomplished so many famous Exploits, that hee was so ever after surnamed, The Boast of England. So; no sooner had hee the whole Campe in charge, and aboard their shippes, but hee proued the perfect patterne of an erquisite Souldier: such a one, as all martiall Captaunes may learne to imitate: so; hee so circumspectly ordered his Captaunes, that

in

the Red-rose Knight.

in his Campe neuer knewe any bytule or malisite. Hee was very courteous and liberal, doing honer to all men accordyng to their deserts. Hee so painefull, and with such care instructed his Souldiers, that at an instant, alwayes (if it were nearefull) every man by the sound of a Drumme or a Trumpet, was found in his Charge or Quarter. And (to be bytule) his Campe resembled one of the greatest Cities in the world, soz all kind of offisers were there found in order: and also a great number of Merchants to furnish it with all manner of necessaries. Hee in no case permitted any robberies, private fighting, forre, or violence: but with severity punished those that were therin found guilty. His deale was, that his Souldiers shoulde glory in nothing so much, as in Martiall prouesse, Vertue, and wisdome. Hee encreasid gane them their pay without fraude or deceipt. Hee honoured, hee praised, hee imbraced and kistid them, and withall kept them in awe and subjection: by which meanes his armes and horour grew so renowned, that his Army dally increased moze and moze: soz when hee first arrived vpon the Countes of Portingale, his Campe grew to be as great as euer was Caesar, when hee conquerid the Westerne world, and it matchlesse prouesse nothing inferiour vnto his. So; fortunate were his proceduris, that hee made a great part of the provinces of Portingale de solate, not being interceptid by any, but speyling every Cobur and City as hee went, vntill such time as the Portingale King had gathered together a marauilous number of Souldiers, both old, and of much experiece, by reason of the continuall waress that they had with the Turkish nation adiourning neare vnto them: But when this Portingale King (like an expert Souldier) seeing that no way he might resist the English Army, nor expell them his Countey, vntesse he gave them present battaile, therfore trusyng in his approued manhood, and the prouesse of his Souldiers, he set his Army in a readinesse, and so marched forwarde to meet the Red rose Knight, and his warlike followers, which at that time had pitched his Campe in a large Chappone plaine, adiourning neare vnto the City of Lishborne, wheras both these Armies met: and setting them in order (as it became good Captaunes) there they beganne (in the breake of

C

the

Tom a Lincoln

the day) the most cruel and terrible Battle that ever was heard of, or fought in that age, conserning the number of both parties, their experiance and policie, with the valiant courage and prouesse of their Captaines.

In great danger continued this fight, till the sun begarme to set, with maraualous slaughter on both sides; yet remayned the victory doubtfull, declining neither to the Portingales, nor yet to the English: but at last (though long) the Portingales began to faint and die, more indeed opprest with the multitude then for any feare they received in the Battle: so the most part of them with honour died manfully in the field, some taken prisoners, and the rest fled for their better safety: but now the Portingale King perceiving his Soldiers began to fly, with courage hee sought to withdrawe them from flight, refised in person valiantly the farrious rage of the enemy: but in that enterprise hee gained such and so many knockes, that at last he was unhaif, and for want of rescue, was soone to yield himselfe as prisoner: whereupon the whole Armye of the Portingales were discomfited, and the victory fell to the Englishmen: the which being obtained, the Red-rose Knight with his Armie entred into the Cittie of Lishborne; where the commone Souldiers were enriched with wealthy spoyles, and the Kings Pal, lace ransacked by the Red-rose Knight: where he tooke such prisoners as him best liked, and the rest (like an honourable Souldier) hee set at liberty, commanding that no violence should be proferred any way.

After this, setting his Arme in a readinesse, he marched towards England, where after some few daies travell, hee arrived with all his Host in the Westernne parts of Devonshire, and marching towards London, wheresagainst his comming, the Citizens with the Inhabitants of other Villages neare aboyning, were that day seene in their most sumptuous and rich attire, every one of them endeauoring to place himselfe in some Gallerys, Windows, that the better and with moze ease there might behold the triumphant returne of the Red-rose Knight. All the Churches in London were on every side set open, hanged round about with most costly furniture: the streets were also most gloriously beset with grene Boughes, and strowed with

the Red-rose Knight.

With Perfumes of no small value: and for the infinite multitude of people that were seene in the City, there was appointed a hundred Watchers most richly attyred to keepe the streets plaine and open, whereby the Triumphs might haue the easier passage: and for that the diversity of the shoures were so many, that they of necessity were constrained to part them into thre severall daies.

The first day hardly suffised in good order to bring in the Banners, Standards, and Engynes of the Conqueror, the golden Images, and Tables of price, which were all brought in on Cartes very curiously painted and trimmied.

On the second day came in the Armour of the Conquered King, as also of all the other Portingale Lords: and as they were rich, bright, and glittering, so were they with most summe ordered and couched in wagons. After these entred thre thousand men in order, bearing nothing but money, openly to bee seene, and that in huge platters and Tassells of Silver; of which were thre hundred and fifty in number, and four of our men allotted to every Tassell: the other brought in most artificall Taperye worke, beautified with gold and siluer. And thus was the second dayes Triumph ended, in most pompeous solemnity.

Upon the third day, even at the rising of the Sunne, with the first Band, entred (as a ioyfull sound of Conquest) an infinite number of Flutes, Drumes, and Trumpets, with other like martiall and warlike Instruments, sounding not after a most pleasant and sweet manner, but in most terrible sorte, as it was possible to bee done, even in such order as they doe when they presentely ioyne battell. And after them came a hundred and twenty Nine all white, having their Hornes curiously gilded with Gold, their bodies couered with Cuiles, (which they accounted most sacred and holy) bearing also Garlandes of flowers upon their heads, dwiuen by certaine young Gentleman, no lesse well-fauoured then gorgeously attyred. After these followed the Coach of the conquered King of Portingale, with his owne Arme layd thereon openly to be seene of all men: his Crowne and roiall Scepter was layd in seemly order upon his Arme. After his Coach came

Tom a Lincolne

came **Prisoners** on foote, with his owne **natall Children**,
being littis **infants**: and after them followed a great troupe
of his **Servants** and **Officers**, as **Spawters** of his **Household**,
Secretaries, **Chyfiers**, **Controllors**, **Chamberlaines**, with other
Gentlemen of his Court, all in a most **soverainfull** manner, se-
ting themselves brought into such extremity and servitude, that
they mooued to compassion all such as beheld them. Of the
Kings **children**, there were two **Boyses**, and one **Girl**: of age
so young and tender, that they had small **understanding** of their
misfortune and misery.

In this triumph followed the **Father** his **owne Children**
(after the **blage** of his **Country**) clad in blacke **mourning** gar-
ments, sorrowing likewise for his hard misfortune. Then
followed **sonoy** of his **appaynes** **Friends**: which, beholding
in that plight their **unhappy Prince**, brake out into teates and
sighs so bitterly, that their **enemis** **themselves** grieved at their
misChaps.

After these, followed one which carried certaine **precious**
stones, that had beene presented to the **Red rose Knight**, from
some **ancient Cities** **in** **Portingale**, who immediately followed
in person triumphantly in his **Iuony Chariot**, apparellled in
vestures of purple **silue**, having a **Lamzell** bough in his hand,
and a **Croisne** of the same upon his head. After him followed
his **owne Shoulders**, both **foot-men** and **Hoole-men**, all march-
ing in most **decent** order, armed with rich furniture, holding
also each of them a **Lamzell** bough in his hand, their **Ensignes**,
and **Banners** **houldier** like displayed, sounding **Martiall** me-
lody in honour of their triumphant **Captaine**: with many other
like **presentents** most **royall** and **magnificent**.

Thus in this gallant order marched they to the Kings
Chappell, where in the presence of the King and his **Lords**
(which came to honour and grace their **Triumphs**) they gave
thankes to God for their **successu l victory**: and after **solemne**
Service was ended they departed to King Arthuris **Court**,
where every one, as well **Strangers** as **others**, were most **roy-**
ally feasted.

The **Portingale King** seeing his kind entertainment in the
English Court, where he was used more like a **friend**, then as
Enemy,

the Red-rose Knight.

Cravile, had small care to retorne home, but froliked many a
day amonge the **English Lords**: whose **loues** unto **Strangers** be
evermore most honourable. But so great were the **courtesies**
that the noble King Arthur bestowed upon the **Portingales**,
who for their proffered **disgraces**, requited them liberally with
honour: and not onely sent them home **ransomlesse**, but **promis-**
sed to lend them aydes and succour from England, if occasion re-
quired: So bearing them company to the **Sea Sde**, hee most
friendly committed them to the **mercy** of the **winds** and **waves**,/
which were so **favorable**, that in short time they arriued safe in
their **owne Country**; where many a day after they remembred
the honourable **kindnesse** of the **Englishmen**, and caused the
Chronicles of **Portingale** to record the **renowne** of King Ar-
thur, and his **Knights** of the **Round Table**.

CHAP. IIII.

How the **Red-rose Knight** travelled from the **king of Englands**
Court, and how he arriued in the **Fayerie-land**, where he was
entertained by a **Mayden Queen**, and what hapned to him in
the **same Country**.

Now, after the **Portingales** were thus com-
moured, and sent home with great honour,
the **English King** and his **Lords**, rested
themselves many a day in the **Towers of**
Peace, leaving their **Armours** rusting, and
their pampered **Steedes** **limking** in their
Stables, forgettung their **natall** **manner** of **warre**:
which wile **caid** greatly discontented the **magnanimitous** **Red-**
rose Knight, who thought it a **slaue** to his **passed** **glory**, and a
scandal to his **Princely** **mind** to entertaine such **base** **thoughts**:
and conforing with himselfe how **ignorant** hee was of his
true **parentes**, and from whence hee was **descended**, hee could
not imagine; therfore he purposed to begin a **newe** **enterpise**,
and to travell up and downe the **world**, till hee had either
found

Torn a Lincolne

from his father and mother, or else yielded his life to his
gouers cause in that pretended Journey: so going to the King,
(full little thinking that he was synging from so noble a Stocke)
cravynge at his Gouers hand, to grant him such liberty, for to
try the Knightes heys in foraine Countries, wheras yet did ne
nor Englishman make his adventure; and so etchenize his name
to all posterity, rather then to spend his life in such home-bred
practices.

At this his honourable request, the King (thoough loath to
forgo his company, yet because it belongeth to knighthly Art,
it excepts) has gave him leane, and withall, furnished him a
schoope at his owne proper cost and charges, givynge free Li
cense to all Knights whatsoeuer, to beare him company: as
amongst many number, Sir Launcelot du Lake was the chie
fest that profferred himselfe to that George, who professe dely
loue to the Red-rose Knight, that they plighted their faiths
like sworne Brothers, and to live and die together in all extre
mities.

So these two English Knights, with the number of a hum
dres more, all resolute Gentlemen, take leue of the King
and with all sped went a shipp-boord: wherin being no sou
ner entred, but the Pilot hoisted shayle and disanchors, and so,
committid their liues and fortunes to the pleasure of Ne
ptunes mercie, vpon whose watry Kingdome they had not many
dayes sayled, but Aholis brazen gates brouke downe, and the
Wawes so violently troubled the swelling Shenes, that every
minute they were in danger to end their liues in the bottome
of the Deas.

These mouthes the wind and the wates strowe together for
supremacie: vning whiche time, they lade no land, but were
driven up and downe, to what place the eare changed Desti
nies listed: so at last they sayled beyond the Sun, directed only
by the light of the strectes, not knowing whiche way to tra
vell to land; but in such extremite for want of shippall,
that they were forced to land at a certayne Iland in the We
sterne parts of the world, inhabited onely by women: whiche
being no ferner on land, and givynge God thankes for delivering
them from that mortall perill, but the Red-rose Knight cast up
his

the Red-rose Knight.

his eyes towards the higher parts of the Countrey, and espied
more then two thousand women commynge forth at a Cittie gate,
all mali richly armid with bras, plates of silver, marchynge
in trim array, like an Army of well appynted sholdiers: the
whiche number commynge neare to the See side, they sent two of
their Damsels, as messengers to the English Knights, bidding
them, as they loued their liues, presently to retre agayne backe
to the Deas, for that was no Countrey for their abode. But
when the Red-rose Knight of England had vnderstood the bold
message of the two Damsels, he was sore abashed (considering
the number of armid women he sawe before him, and the great
dangers they had suffered before on the See for want of vict
uals) that ge knew not in what manner he was best to answer
them: but having a god courage, he at last spake to the two
Damsels in this stt.

Right Noble Ladies, I haue well vnderstood your speches:
threfore I desire you for to tello me such fauour unto bordering
Travellers as to tell vs in what Country Fortune hath brought
vs to: and for what cause we are comandid by you to retorne
to the See.

Surely Sir Knight (answering one of the Damsels) this
Countrey whereon you are attred, it is not very bigge, but yet
most fertile and commodious: and is called by the name of the
Fayerie-land: And now to tello you the cause why you are
comandid to retorne, this it is. Not many yeares age,
there reigned in this Countrey a King which had to name
Larmos, for wisedome and prouesse not his equall was sead
in any of these parts of the world. This King had such con
tinall war against the bordering Flanders, that vpon a time
he was constrained to muler for the lame war all the men both
young and old whiche were found in his Kingdome, wherby
the whole Countrey was left desolute of men, to the great dis
contentment of the Ladies and Damsels that here inhabited:
wherupon they finding theyselues so highly wronged, living
without the company of men, they generally assembled them
selues together, with the Daughter of King Larmos, whiche
is called Celia, no lesse beautie, then in Vertue and Wiso
dome: These Ladies and Damsels being gathered toge
ther,

Tom a Lincoln

ther, with a generall consent, dispatched certayne messengers to the King, and to their Husbands, willing them to retarne unto their Country, and not to leave their wifes any children in such extremity, without the comfort and company of man. Upon which, the King answered, that he had besieged his enemies in their Townes of War; and before one man shold retarne home till he came with Conquest, his Country shold be lost and made desolate, and the women ginen over to the spoyle of his enemies: Which answer, when the Ladies had receiv'd, they tooke it in such evill part, that they conspi-cuted against their King, and Husbands, and put to death all the men chyldren that were in the Country; and after determined, whan their Husbands, Fathers, and Friends returned from the War, that they shold the first night of their com-ming, be slaine sleeping in their beds, and that never after they shold suffer man to enter into their Country. After this conclusion, they crownes Celia the Kings Daughter for their Queene: and so afterward, when the King and his armie returned from the Wars, this bloudy murder was practis-ed, and not a man left aliue, but onely the King refred, whom Celia shold in no wise against nature murther: but yet notwithstanding, she delivred him into the hands of her chiefeſt Ladies, which put him into a boat alone, and so ſent him to the ſea to ſeek his fortune. Therefore most noble Knights, this is the caufe, why you may not enter into our Country: which if you doe, and not pefonally withdraw your ſelves unto the ſea, the Ladies will ſuddenly give you a mortua-rious Battell.

Now by the Ever-living God, which English-men aþoþ, (said the Noble Red-rose Knight) ſuch extremitte haue we ſuffered at leaþ, that we are like to perish and dye with hunger, unleſſe we ſinde ſome ſuccour at your hands: and before we will end our liues with ſamitie, we will enter Battell with thole Ladies, and ſo dy with honore in the field: yet this kinderneſſe bee the humbly deſire of þe Ladies, to retarne unto your Queene, and certifie her of our ſate and neceſſity, and that we altogether inſtantly deaþ, that if there be any ſparke of Virtue, or nobility harbored in her breſt, that ſhe

will

the Red-rose Knight.

will haue pitie upon vs, and ſuffer vs not to end our liues by ſuch an unhappy kind of death.

With this request the two Damsels returned to the Queen, and recounted from word to word the humble ſtate of the Red-rose Knight, and what extremity they were in: Which when the Queene vndirſtood, and that they were Knights of England, the ſame of which Country she had ſo often heard repa-ſed, ſhe demanded what manner of people they were, and of what conuictiōn? Surely ſir Adam (answe red one of the two Damsels) I never in all my life ſaw moþe goodly men, may better ſpoken: and it is to be ſuppoſed, they be the choyle of all humaþe people, and with their courteous demeanours are able to draw the mercelous and ſauage Nation to affect them.

The Queene hearing the Damsels ſo highly to commend the English Knights, thinking alſo upon their request, began (in minde) to haue pitie of their misaduentures, and ſo inſtantly ſent for them, and gaue them free libertie to make their abord in her Country: which incontinently when the English Knights heard, how they ſhould receiue a kinde welcomme, and a friendly entertainment, grew ſo exceeding ioyfull, as though Heauen had ſent them preſent comfort: ſo comming before the Queene and her Ladies, they ſaluted each other moþe courteſuously, and with great reverence. But when the vertuous Queene beheld this noble company before her, in all humilitie, ſhe delivred to a hundred of her Ladies, the hundred English Knights, and reſerued the Prince the Red-rose Knight unto her ſelue: and ſo were they brought to the Queens Palace, where every Lady feasted her Knight in moþ gallant ſort, and to their hearts content. But now when the Queens had the Red-rose Knight in her Chamber, and had beheld the exceeding beaute of the noble Prince, ſhe took him by the hand, and let him into one of her Chambers, where ſhe ſhewed him her Riches and Treasurie: and after ſaid vnto him in this manner.

Good noble and valiant Englishman, these Riches bee all onely at thy Commandement, and alſo my body, which here I offer up as a gift and preſent to thy diuine exceilencie: and

D

further

Tom a Lincolne

Furthermore, there is nothing of value, which I am spaire of, but shall be at thy dispusing, to the intent that my loue may be acceptable to thy gracious eyes. But when the Red-rose Knight perçeiveth to what intent she spake these wordes, in this manner answered her, saying.

Right deare Prince, and faire Queene of this Quaintrey, I giv you right humble thanks for these your countesses, and by no meaneys possible may I deserv this high honour you have graced me with.

My great Knight (replied then the Queene) the smalllest thought of your honourable mind, is sufficient to recompence the deterrour of my deserts: yet let me request this one thing at your noble handes, that never asketh the like fauour of any man before, for the that never knew the least motion of loue, is now pitchid with a hundred tormentes: and unless you quench the ardent affection wherewith my heart is fired, with the pleasant hopes of your comfortable fancies, I am like to die helpeles, and then the moþe will accuse you of cruelty, in murde-ring a constant Lady: but if it shall please you to grant me loue, and to espouse me according to Hymens holy Rites, here shall you rule sole King, and be the Lord of all this Countrey.

My right deare Lady (answered then the Red-rose Knight) you have done such pleasure to mee, and to my diff'rent followers, in preseruing us from famine, as I shall never requite it, though I shalld spend all the rest of my life in your service. And knowes (most excellent Princess) that there is no aduenture so dangerous, yet at your commandement would I prouise to accomplish: yet so; to tye my selfe in Gledockes bonds there is no woman in the world shall procure me: for untill I have knyghted an Aduenture wherid in my heart I haue dwore I will not looke my affection to any Ladie in the world. But think not (Princesse) that I refuse your loue thþoughy desirous: for I smere by the digniteþ King Arthur grac'd me to þe, I shalld thynke my selfe most fortunate, if I haue so faire and noble a Ladie, as your swyne selfe.

Most worthy Knight (then answered the Queene) I haue givens, that the Gods haue sent you into this Countrey for the countess principally: The first is, that you and your followers should

the Red rose Knight.

should be preserved from death by my meaneys: The second is that you shalld inhabit in this Countrey least it haule in shott time be left as a desert wildernes: for it is inhabited onely by women without a King, and haue no other Conquerour but me, which am their chiefe þrincess: And so; so much as I haue succoured you, so succour you this desolate Citle, that it may be respopled with your seed: and in so doing, you shall accomplish a vertuous ded, and winnes to your names an eternall memorie to all comynge ages.

I conesse (quoth the Red-rose Knight) that you and your Ladys haue succoured me and my followers in our great nescitie: and in recompense wherof, we will employ all our endeavours to the repeopling againes of this Countrey: But in regard of the secret woe my heart hath made, I will not yeld my selfe to your desires; so; if I shalld infringe my oath wane honour were greatly impaired: And before I would commit that dishonorable fact, I wold suffer the greatest torment that mans heart can imagine.

Incontinently, when the loue-scke Queene heard this an-swer of the English Knight, and perceiued that he was stame in his purpose, shee tooke leave of him, and departed for that time: the Red-rose Knight likewise withdrawe himselfe into his Chamber, pondring in his mind a thousande imaginacions. But shee for her part was so troubled in mind, and so wounded with the Dartes of blinde Cupid, that when the wylly dartenettes of night had couered the earth, shee laid her doþone upon her bed, where betwixt Shame and her Heart, beganne a terrible Battell. Her Heart was incuraged, that shee shold goe and lie with him: but shame began to blush, and with god that per-sonation; by whiche meane the battell was great, and indured a long time: But at last the Heart was Conquerour, and shame vanquished and put to flight, in such sort that the faire Queene arose from her bed, and went and laid her doþone by her belovid Knight, wherid he lay: and being in the bed, shee began fearefully to tremble, for shame still followed her unlakfull practises: where after her quivering heart began a little to be qualid, with her trembleng hand she awaked him, and after spake in this maner.

Tom a Lincolne

My most deare and affectionat friend, though like a careless
wretch I come unto this appalled with shame, yet let my
true loue couert this my infamous presumption: for your
princely person, and kingly demeanours, like Adamants hane
drawne my staled heart to commit this shamefull act; yet
let not my fervent affection be requited with Disgraine: and
although you will not consent to bee my wedded lord and hus-
band, yet let me be thy loue and secret friend; that a pale
distressed queene may thinke her selfe happy in an English-
mans loue.

When the noble knight heard the faire Calias booke, and
saw her by his side all naked, she was so sore abashed, that he
wilt not what to doe: but yet at last hauing the nature and
courage of a man, he turned to her, vsing many amorous spe-
ches, embracing and kissing each other in such manner, that
faire Calia was conceiued with child, and warr great of a
right faire sonne: of whom she was in processe of time safe-
ly delivred: as you shall heare discoursed of at large in the fol-
lowing historie.

Mat to be shoit, during the space of fourre moneths, the
Fayrie Ladies lay with the English Knights, and many of them
were conceiued with their sede in such sort, that the Countrey
was afterward repeopled with male Children, and what hap-
ned amongst them in the meane season I will passe over for
this time: for the dayes and nightes (that he and the rest) passe
on their wonted course: in which time their shipp was reple-
nished with all necessaries, and the Red-rose Knight summoned
together Sir Launcelot and the rest: and being assembled, he
sate unto them.

My god Friends, and Countrey-men, you know, that long
time we haue scoured in this Countrey, spending our dayes
in idle pastimes, to the reproach of our former glories: now
my intent is, within these three dayes to depart this Countrey,
therefore let every man make himselfe in readinesse: for there
is no greater dishonour to aduenturous Knights, then to spend
their dayes in Ladies bosomes.

When Sir Launcelot and the other English Gentlemen heard
the forward disposition of the Red-rose Knight, they were all
aunce,

the Red-rose Knight.

exceeding joyfull, and answered him; that with great willing
nesse they woulde all be ready at the time appointed.

But now, when the Fayrie Ladies perceiued the prepa-
rations that the English Knights made for their departurc,
they grew exceeding sorrowfull, and complained one to another
in most grievous manner: but amongst the rest, the Queene
was most displeased, whos with a sorrowfull and sad heart came
unto the Red-rose Knight, and in this manner complained
to him.

Alas, alas, my deare lord, haue ye that tyrannous heart, to
withdaw your selfe from me, and to forlaine me before you see
the fruit of your noble person, which is nourished with my
bloud. Deare knight, behold with pitie my wombe, the cham-
ber and manston of your bloud: Oh let that be a meanes to stay
you, that my child (as yet unborne) be not fetherless by your
departure. And in speaking these words, she began to weape
and sigh bitterly, and after to whisper secretly to her selfe in
this order.

Oh you immortall heavens, how may mine eyes behold the
departure of my joy! for being gone, all comfort in the world
will forlaine me, and all consolacion fly from me: and contra-
riwise, all sorrow will pursue me, and all misfortune come
against me. Oh what a sorrow will it be to my soule, to see this
floating on the dangerous seas, where every minute, perils doe
arise ready to whelme thar in the bottomlesse Ocean: and being
once exempted from my sight, my heart for ever mooy in the
bed of tribulation, under the couerture of mostall distresse, and
betweene the tharts of eternall bewailings. Yet if there be no
remedy, bat that thou wilt needs depart, lweare vnto me, that
is ener thou doest accomplish thy pretended voyage, (what it is
I know not) that thou walt returne againe to this Countrey, to
tell me of thy happy forrunes, and that mine eyes may once
more beholde thy louely countenance, which is as delectable to
my soule, as the Joies of Paradise.

Then the noble English Knight vnterstod that the
Queene condescended to his departing, vpon condition of his
returne to whiche he solemnly protested, if the Gods gane him
life and good fortune, to perforne her request; whereby the

Fayrie

Tom a Lincoln

Fayrie Queen was somewhat recomfayred: and having great hope in the returne of her deare Love, she ceased her lamentations. And now (to abridge the story) the time came that the valiant Englishmen shoulde goo a shipp-boare: upon which day, the Red-rose Knight and his followers, took leane of the noble Queene and her Ladies, thanking them for their kind enter-tainments, and so went to the port of the sea, where they em-tned their shippes, and so departed from the Fayrie Land. After this, when Celia had borne her Babe in her wombe full forte marks she was delivred of a faire Son, who came afterward to be called the Fayrie Knight: which for this time we will not touch, but refet it to the second part of this history.

Chap. V.

What hapned to the English Knights, after their departure from the Fayrie Land.

VIS IT a prosperous wind sayles these English Knights, many a League from the Fayrie Land, to their great content and hearts desire, where every thing seemed to prognosticate their happy Adventures: so upon a day when the sunne shone cleare, and a gentle calme wind caused the seas to lyce as smouth as Chyball Ics, whereby their shipp lay floating on the waues, not able to remoue: For whilke the Dolphins daunc'd upon the silver deccanies, and the red gld fishes leapt about the shipp, the Red-rose Knight requested Sir Lancelot, to spye away the time with some Courtly Discourse, whereby they might not chuse their voyage ouer long. This which the god Sir Lancelot most willingly agreed: and althoug he was a martiall knight, delighting to heare the relentle. he founde of angry Doloris, which shouders threats from a baselake, yet coude hee like an Doctor, as well discoule a knaue by heape: therfore requesting the Red-rose Knight, and the other English

the Red-rose Knight

English Gentlemen, to sit downe and listen to the tale that followeth.

The pleasant History which Sir Lancelot an Lake told to the Red-rose Knight, being a Ship-board.

AT that time of the yeare, when the Birds had ript away the tawny leaves, and Flora with her pleasant flowers, had enricht the earth, and incanted Trees, Herbes, and flowers, with Natures Capitrie, when the golden Sunne with his glistering Beames did glad mens hearts, and every Leaf as it were, did beare the forme of Love, by Nature painted vpon it: This blessed time did cause the Grecian Emperour to proclame a solemn Enciuement to be holden in his Court, which as then was replenished with many worthy and valiant Knights: but his deare chieflie was, to behelpe his princely sonne Valentine, to try his valour in the Enciuement.

Many were the Ladies that repayred thither, to behelpe the wo:th: triumphs of this young Prince: amoyg which number came the beautifull Dulcippa, a Maide which as then waited vpon the Empresse, being Daughter to a Courteyn Gentleman. This Dulcippa, like Apollos Plotter, being the sayell Virgin in that company, had so firmly setled her loue vpon the Emperours Son, that it was impossible to expell it from her heart. Likewise his affection was no lesse in seruente then hers: so that there was a just equality in their loues and likynge, though a difference in their Birthes and Callings.

This princely Valentine, (for so was the Emperours sonne called) entered the lists in celly Armes most richly wrought with Dylent Pearles, his Crest incompassed with Saphire Stones, and in his hand a blurie Lance. Thus mounted vpon a mule white hee, hee vaunted sooth hym selfe to try his warkes force: and in prauancing vp and doouing his many times (thruste his lance) sole a view of his faire Dulcippa's face: at whiche sight, there hirld in his wress the sunbre Lampes: the wch was to wot the honour of the

Tom a Lincolne

Day; the other, to obtaine the loue of his Missyge. On the other side, Dulcippa did nothing but report the valiant acts of his powesse and chivaltrie, in such sort, that there was no other talk amongst the Ladies, but of Valentines honourable attempts.

No sooner was the Turniaiments ended and this loue begun, but Dulcippa departed to her lodgynge, where syghs did serue as bellowes to kynde Loues fire. Valentine in like manner being wounded to death, till cometh by and done to haue a salve for his stanchesse thist: so syaks Dulcippa to recouer her former liberty: for, she being both beloued, and in loue knew not the meanes to comfort her selfe. Sometimes he did exclamation against her wauing eyes, & wist they had ben sturd when first they gazed vpon the beauty of Princely Valentine: Sometimes in visions she beheld his face chearfull, smiling vpon her countenance: and presently againe, she thought she saw his martiall hands bathed all in purple bloud, scorning her loue and somer courtesies. With that she started from her dreameing passion, bringynge her tender hands, till sydes of silver dropping teares trickled downe her face: Her golden hayze that had went to be bound vp in thredes of gold, hung dangling downe about her Iust ry neck, the which in most outragious sort she rent and tore, till that her hayze which before lookt like burnisht gold, were dyed now in purple and Vermilion bloud. In this strange passion remained this distressed Lady, till the Golden Sunne had thise times lodged him in the Western Heas, and the silver Moone her shinning face in the Hallace of the Chyrtall Clouds. At this time a heavy slumber possessed all her sensses: for he, whose eyes before in thise dayes, and as mang nights, had not shut vp their closets, was now lockt vp in great sleepe, left her heart over-burthened with griefe, by some untried manner shoulde destroy it selfe.

But now retorne we to the worthy Valentine, who sought not to pine in passion, but to court it with the best, considering with himselfe, that a saint heart never gain'd faire Lady: therfore he purposed boldly to discouer his loue to the faire Dulcippa, building vpon a fortunate chance, conuidering that she was but Daughter to a Gentleman, and he a Prince boyn, so

attirring

the Red-rose Knight.

attirring him selfe in costly vylkes, bearing in his hatt, an Indian Pearle cut out of Ruby red. On either side a golden Arrow thrust through a bleeding Heart; to declare his earnest affection. In this manner went he to his beloued Lady, whom he found in company of other Ladies waiting vpon the Empresse: he so taking her by the hand, he led her aside into a Galleyにて adioyning: where he began in this maner to expresse the passion of his loue.

Hast thou Dulcippa, (quoth he) in beauty brighter then glistening Cynthia, when with her beames the beautifies the vales of Heaven. That art thou Cynthia, that with thy bright, nesse vost light my cloudy thoughts, which haue many dayes breke vnor cast with sommy flowers of loue: Shine with thy beames of mercie on my mind, and let thy light conduct me from the darke and obscure Labyrinthe of loue. If teares could speake, then shoulde my tongue keepe silence: Therefore, let my syghes bee messengers of true loue. And though in words I am not able to deliuer the true meaning of my deires: yet let my cause begge pitie at your hands. Otherwile your deniali drownes my soule in a bothevile sea of sorrow: one of these two (most beauteous Lady) doe I desire: either to gue life with a chearfull smile, or death with a fatal frowne. Valentine hating no sooner ended his loues oration, but he with a scarlet countenance, returned him this toyfull answere.

Most noble Prince, thy words within my heart haue knist a geordian knot, which no earthly knyght may untie: for it is knitte with fathfull loue, and teares, distilling from a constant minde. My heart whiche never yet was subiect to any one doe I freely yield vp into thy holome, where it for euer, moxe shall rest, till the fatal sisters cut our lynes asunder. And in speaking these words they kistid each other as the first earnest of their loues. Whil that the Empresse came therto the Gallerie, who espynge their secret conference, presently nurled in her secret hate, which shes intended to practise against the guiltlesse Lady, thinking it a scandall to her to haue birth to match in mariage with one of so base a parentage: Therefore purpising to crose their loues with dis-

Tom a Lincoln

small Strategems, and a weary Tragedies, shee departed to her Chamber, where shee clost her treacheries vp in silence, and pondered in her heart how shee might end their loves, and anticke Dulcippas life. In this tragical imagination remained shee all that night hammering in her head a thousand severall practices. But no sooner was the dewy earth comforted with the hot beames of Apolloes fire, but this thirking Empresse arose from her carefull bed, penning her selfe closely within her Chamber, like one that made no conscience for to kill : shee in all hast sent for a Doctor of Physicke, not to give Physicke to restore health, but poison for untimely death ; who being no sooner come into her presence, but presently shee lockt her Chamber doore, and with an angry countenance, staring him in the face, shee brea-
thed this horrore into his harmlesse eares.

Doctor, thou knowest how oft in secret matters I haue used thy helpe, wherein as yet I never saw thy faith falsified : but now amoungst the rest I am to require thy aid in an earnest busynesse, so secret, that if thou dost but tell it to the whispering windes, it is sufficient to spred it through the whole world : whereby my practices may be discovered, and I be made a noted reproach to all hearers.

Madam (quoth the Doctor, whose heart harboured no thought of bloody deeds) what needs all these circumstances where duty doth command my frane obedience : deffit not there-
fore, gentle Empresse, to make me pylote to your thoughts : soe little did shee think her mind could harbour soe vyle a thought : her hauing conserued most strongly his secrete, she spake to him as followeth.

Doctor, the loue (nay rather raigne loue) whiche I haue spred of late between my unnatural sonne, and yond Dulcippa may in shott time (as thou knowest) bring a subdaine alteration of our state, considering that he being bothe a Prince, and descended from a royall race, shoule match in mariage with a base and ignoble Mayden. Daughtur bin to a Ricche Gentleman : therefore if I shoule suffer this secret loue to gue forsworne, and eke not to prevent it, the Emperor might condemne me of falsehood, and judge me an agent in this unlawfull loue ; whiche to avoyd, I haue a practice in my head, and in thy hand it lyes

to

the Red rose Knight.

to procure thy Princes happiness, and Countreyes good. Dul-
cippe's father (as thou knowest) dwelleth about three miles from
my Wallace, vnto whose houes I will this day send Dulcippa,
about such busynesse as I thinke best, wheres then shalt be ap-
pointed, and none but thee to conduct her thither : wheres in a
thick and bushy grove, whiche standeth directly in the midway,
thou shalt give her the cup of death, and so rid my heart from
suspicious thoughts.

This bloody practice being pronounced by the Empresse, caused such a terrorre to enter into the Doctors minde, that he trem-
bled forth this sorrowfull complaint.

By you inmostall powers of heaven, you guider of my
haplesse sortunes, why haue you thus ordyned me to be the
bloody murderer of a chaste and vertuous Lady, and the true
partner of sobrietie ; whose untimely overthowre if I shoule
but once conspire, Diana's Memphis would forue their loued
spouses, and stain their hands with my accursed blood :
Therefore, most gloriouse Empresse, cease your determinati-
on, for my heart will not suffer my hand to commit so soule a
villany.

And wilt thou not doe it then (replied the Empresse, with a
wunde fraught with rage and blood) I doe protest (quoth shee)
by Heavens bright fatallitie, except thou dost consent to accom-
plish my intent, thy head shall warrant this my secrete.
Stand not on termes, my resolute attempt is cleane impatient
of objections.

The Doctor hearing her resolution, and that nothing but
Dulcippa's death might satisfie her wylle, hee consented to her
request (and purposed runnynge to disseimble with the bloody
Queen) who believed that shee would performe what shee so
much desired : so departing out of her chamber, she went to the
guilflesse Lady, sending her on this fatal message, who like to
haplesse Bellerophon was ready to carry an embassage of her
owne death. But in the meane time the Doctor harboured in
his breste a world of bitter loues, to thinke how vilye this vertuous
Lady was betrayd : and considering in his mind, how that
he was sojred by constraint to performe this tragedy ; therefore
hee purposed not to gye her a cup of poison, but a sleeping

C 2

Dinke

Tom a Lincolne

Drinke, to cast her into a trance, which shes shoulde as a cap of death recorde; as well to try her vertuous Constancie, as to rid hirselfe from so hainous a crime.

But now returns hee to Dulcippa, who being sped of her message, went with the Doctor walking on the way, where all the talke which they had was of the liberall praise of Prince Valentine, who remained in Court, little suspecting what had happened to his beloved Lady: and she likewise ignorant of the hurt that was pretended against her life: but being both alone together in the wood, where nothing was heard but chirping Birds, which with their boypes seemed to moan at the Ladies misfortune. But now the Doctor, breaking off their former talke, tooke occasion to speake as followeth.

Span of all other creatures (most vertuous Lady) is most miserable, for Nature hath ordained to every Bird a pleasant tune to beweare their mishaps, the Rightingale doth complayne her Rape and lost Virginity within the desert Groues: the Swanne doth likewise sing a dolefull hearie tune a while before shes dies, as though heaven had inspired her with some foreknowledge of things to come. You Madam, now must sing your Hys anlike song; for the pretty Birds (I see) doe shoope their hanging heads, and moan to think that you must die. Maruaile not Madam, the angry Queene will have it so. Accurst am I in being constrained to bee the bloody instrument of so tyrannous a fact. Accurst am I that haue ordained that Cup, which must by Poyson stanch the threst of the bloody Empresse: and most accursed am I, that can not withstand the angry Fates, which haue appointed me to offer violence unto vertue. And in speaking these words, hee delivered the Cup into the Ladies hands: who like a Lambe that was led to the slaughter, bled silencie for her excuse. Many times lift shes by her eyes toward the sacred Throne of Heaven, as though the gods had sent downe vengeance vpon her guiltie soul, and at last breathed forth shes sorrowfull lamentations.

Never (quoth shes) shall vertue shoope to die. Never shall Death affright my soule; no; never Poyson quench that lasting loue, which my tyne heart doth bear to Prince Valen-

time,

the Red-rose Knight.

time: whose Spirits (I hope) shall met me in the joyfull Fields of Elizium, to call those Thoates, that dyed for Faithfull loue, to beare me witnesse of my Faith and Loyalty: and so taking the Cup, she said; Come, come, thou most blessed Cup, wherein is contained that happy Drinke, which giveth rest to troubled minde. And thou most blessed Drinke, beare witnesse, that I mixt this banefull Drinke with teares distilling from my bleeding heart. Whiles Lips of mine that had meant to kille Prince Valentine shall now most willingly kisse this Ground, that must receive my Corpse. The authour of my death, Alas! hee; for he honours me, in that I die for my sweet Valentines sake. And now Doctor to the (being the instrument of this my Death) I doe bequeath all earthly happiness: and here withall, I drinke to Valentines good fortune: so drinking of the darping Potion, she was presently call into a trance; which shes poore Lady, supposed death. The Doctor greatly admiring at her vertuous mind, erected her body against an aged Oak, where he left her sleeping, and with all speed returned to the hatfull Quene, and tol her, that he had performed her Maistries command: who gaue him many thanks, and promised to requite his service with a large recompence.

But now speake we againe of Prince Valentine, who had intelligent, how the onely comfort of his heart had ended her life by poysons violence: so which cause, he leuves the Court; and conuerted his rich attire to ruthfull Robes: his costly colour'd Garments, to a hemely russet Cat; and so travaling to the solitary woodes, he volued to spend the rest of his dayes in a Shepherds life: his royall Scepter was turned into a simple Shephearde, and all his pleasure was to keepe his Shepe from the tooth of the ravenous Wolves.

These times had glistening Phoebe receaved her horning wings, and deckt the elements with her smiling countenance: These maneths were past, these Moones had likewise runne their bentes compasse, before the Grecian Emperor met his priuately Deceit: whose want was no sooner quited through the Cat, but hee reched forth his horizont to himselfe.

Tom a Lincolne

What cursed planet thus iniately rules my hapless course?
or what歟 beneath aspere fate hath bereaved me of my p[ri]u[n]ces
ly? lowe send downe thy burning Thunderbolts, and
strike them dead that be p[ri]scers of his want: But if, (sweet
Venus) he be dead so; lowe, hauer his Ghost before mine eyes
that he may discouer the cause of his afflictions. But contrari-
wise, if his life be griesed by the surg[ing] of some murtherous mind,
then let my exclamations pierce to the iustfull Sp[irit]us of
Heaven, that never man may shone vpon his hated head,
which is the cause of my Valentines decay: Or, that the angry
Furies may lende their burning whips, incessantly to scourge
their purple soales, till my Sons wrongs be sufficiently re-
menged. Thus, o; in such a like franticke humour cam he by
and viole his Wallace, till Reason pacified his outragious
thoughts, and by persuas[i]on of his Lord, he was brought into
his quiet bed. Speane space, Diana (the Queene of Chalidie)
with a traine of beautifull nymphs, by chance cam through
the Woods where Dulcippa was left in her trance: in which
place, rousing the Chickets in pursuit of a wild hart, the
Queene of Chalidie spied the harmlesse Lady standing against
a Tres, and beheld her swet b[r]ath to passe through her closed
lips: At whose presence, the Queene abhile stood wondring at;
but at last with her sacred hand she awaked her, & withall asked
the cause of her trance, and by what meanes she came thither:
which p[ro]use awaked Lady, being amazed both at her sudden
sp[irit]e, and the strangeness of her falled fortune and di-
stresse, with farr fetcht eythes, shew related what happened to
her in those desart Woods. The heavenly Goddess being mo-
ted with pitte, with a most swetling voyce cheated her np, and
with a Lilly taken from the ground, shew wipped the teares from
out Dulcippas tender cheeks, which like a cluer trickled from
her Chrysal eyes. This being done, Diana with an Angels
voyce, spake unto her as followeth:

Sweet Virgin (so; so it serueth thou art) sacre better
would it befit thy happy estate (happy I terme it) having past
so many dangers, to spend the remant of thy life amongst my
traine of nymphs, whereas i[mp]rungeth nothing but Chalidie
and purity of life. Dulcippa, though in her loue both storne and
constant,

the Red-rose Knight

constant, yet did she condicte to dwelle with Dianas nymphs:
where now, instead of party with Courtly Gallants, shew sing-
eth songs, Carols, and Mandaynes: in stead of Men and
Inke, wherewith she was wont to wryte Love letters, shew
exerciseth her Bow and Arrowes, to kill the swit[er] sat Deerz;
and her downy beds are pleasant Groues, where prett[er] Lambs
doe graze.

But now returne we againe to the raged Emperor,
who listeth the matter out in such sort, that he found the Em-
presse guiltye of her Sons want, and the Doctor to be the
instrument of Dulcippas death: who being desperat (like one
that bitterly detested the cruelty of the Emperore) would not
allege, that he had but set the Lady in a trance, but openly
confess'd that he had poysoned her and soz that sae was willing
to offer vp his life to satissle the Law, thereforee the angry
Emperour sweares, that nothing shall satissle his Souldiers
renegement but death: and therupon straiglye com-
manded the Emperore to be put in prison, and the Doctor likewise
to be lockt in a strong Tower: but yet because shew was his
lawfull wife, and a Princesse borne, he something sought to
mitigate the Law, that if any one within a twelvemonth and a
day would come and offer himselfe to combat in her cause a-
gainst himselfe, which would be the appealant Champion, shew
should haue life: if not to be burnt to ashes, in sacrificis of his
Sons death: all which was performed as the Emperour had
commanded,

But now all this while the p[ro]ze Prince lynes alone within
the Woods, making his complaints to the flocke of Shepe
and wassing their wooll with his distressed teares. His bed
whereron his body rested, was furrow into a sun-burned banke &
his chaire of state, covered with grasse: his muscke, the whis-
ting winds: the Rethorike, full complaints and moanes,
wherewith he bewailed his passed sojourns, and the bitter cro-
ses of his unhappy loue.

The solitarie place wherein this p[ri]nce remained, was
not farre distant from the Groue, wher Dulcippa led her sa-
cred life: who by chance in a moring at the Sunnes up-
sing, alredy in greene vestments, bearing in her hand a

bow

Tom a Lincoln

Both bended, and a quire of arrows hanging at her backe, with her harpe tyed by the middle twestr, left the Forches. And earely her golden Brestes to beautifie their branches: in this maner comming is haue a smalfe Hart, she was crepynge by a bloody Satyre bent to rape, who with a bloody mace purfled her: and conserning to the same place where Prince Valentine see his mountynge Lambes, he smotke her, whereat she gaue such a terrible shooke in the callood, that ther stred by the Shepheardes painely minde to resuce her: but now when the bloody Satyre beheld a face of shame shrowded in a Shepheardes cloathing, immediatly he starded through the calloods moxe. But then er the scarfoll Deare did run.

But nowe gentle Reader, here lay to reade a while, and thinke upon the happy meeting of these Lovers: so, lette the imagination thereof will lead a goldein wit into the Labyrint of heauenly joyes: but being breathlesse in annoyding passed dangers, they could not speake a word, but with dead, fast eyes stood gazing each other in the face: but conming againe to their former sensa, Valentine brake silencie with this wauering spech.

What heauenly wight art thou (quoth hee) which with the beautie hast infysored me?

I am no Goddess (replied she againe) but a Virgin betwix to kepe Diana company, Dulcippa my name: a Lady sometime in the Grecian Court, whyle happy fortune smilid; but being crost in love, here doe I vowe to spende the remenant of my dayes. And with that, her catching the word out of her mouth, said:

By you unassayall Gods: and is my Dulcippa yet alake? I, I, alake I se she is: I see that sweete celestiale beautie in her face, which hath banished deepe sorrow from my heart: and with that husing her, he said; Now, see, fairest of all faires that nature euer made, I am thy Valentine, that unhappy Lorie, the Prince of Greece, the Emperours true Sonne, who for the lonely sake am thus disguised, and for thy loue have left the gallant Court, for this sweete and honest country life. With that, she tolde him about his manly necke, and brenched many a bitter sigh into his bosome: and after with weeping

the Red-rose Knight.

weeping teares, discoursed all her passed dangers, as well the crueltie of the Empresse, as of the bestiales ded of the good Doctor. And having both recounted their passed sorowes, they consented (disguised as they were) to travell to the Grecian Court to see if the Destinies had transformed the state of the Emperour or his regiment; soz now no longer outcries, nor heauie stratagems, or sorrowfull thoughts sought to pursue them; but smiling fortune, gracious delights, and happy blessings. Now Fortune never meant to turne her wheeles againe, to crose them with calamities, but intended with her hand to powre into their hearts oyle of lasting peace. Thus whilste Apollos bearmes did parch the tender twigs, these two Lovers sat still vnder the branches of a shade Beech, recompensed still their joyes and pleasures: and siting both thus vpon a grassy bancke, there came travelling by them an aged old man: bearing in his withered hand a stace to lay his benummed body: whose face when Prince Valentine beheld, with a gentle voice he spake vnto him in this sort.

Father, God save you: Now hapneth that you wearied with age, dos travell through the desart Countries, besetting such as can withstand the checks of Fortunes sicklenesse: Come faire old man sit downe by vs: whose minds of late were mangled with griefe, and crost with worldly cares.

This good old Permite hearing the curteous request of the Prince, sat downe by them, and in siting downe, he tumbled forth this spech.

I come (young man) from yonder Citie, whereas the Emperour holds a hearie Court, and makes exceeding sorow for the want of his eldest Sonne, and for a Lady whiche is likewise absent: the Empresse being found guilty of their wants, is kept close prisoner, and is condemned to be burnt, vnableisid within a twelue moneth and a day, she can get a Champion that wil enter Battaille in her cause: and with her, a Doctor also is adjudged to suffer death. Great is the sorow that is there made for this noble Prince, and none but comendis his vertue: and withall the deserved prayses of the absent Lady.

Father (replied then the Prince) thou hast told vs tidings

Torn a Lincolne

full of bitter truth, able to enforce any true heart to lament: for
cruel is the doom, and most unnatall the Emperor, to dealt
so hardly with his Queen.

Say (quoth the old man) if she be guilty, I cannot pitie her,
that will cause the ruine of so gud a Prince: for higher powers
must giv example unto their subiects.

By late fater (quoth the Prince the Shepheard) you can
well guess of matters touching Kings; and to be a witnesse of
this accident, we will presently goe unto the Court and see
what shall betide unto this distressed Dusene. This being said,
they left the aged man, and so traunled towards the Grecian
Court: and by the way, these Lovers did consult, that Prince
Valentine attred like a Shepheard, shold offer himselfe to
combat in his mothers cause, and so to expesse the kinde loue
and nature which was lodged in his princely breast. But be-
ing no sooner arrived in the Court, and seeing his fater to
take the combat vpon himselfe, presently he knelled downe, and
like an obedient Sonne, discountered himselfe, and withall Dul-
cissas strange fortunes: whereupon the Empresse and the Em-
peror were presently delivered, and did both most willingly con-
sent to ioyn these two Lovers in the bands of mariage:
wheras after they spent their daies in peace and happiness.

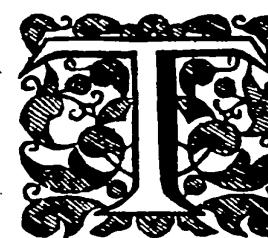
This pleasant Discourse being ended, whiche Sir Lancelot
had tolde to the exceeding pleasure of the greatest company, but
especially of the Red-rose Knight, who gaue many fud thanks.
At this tyme the winds began to rise, and blow thairefully, by
whiche they safled on their journey successfullly from one coast to
another, till at the last they arrived vpon the coasts of Prester
Johns Land, which was in an evening when the day began to
lose her chyall Mantle, and to gaine place to the habble garments
of gloomy night: where they cast anchor, vnsure of any
of that Countrey Inhabitants.

CHAP.

the Red-rose Knight.

CHAP. VI.

What happened to the Red-rose Knight, and his company in the
Court of Prester John; and how the Red-rose Knight slew a
Dragon with three tongues, that kept a Golden tree in the
same Countrey; with other attempts that happened.



The next morning by the bzeake of day,
the Red-rose Knight rose from his
Cabin, and went vpon the Hatches
of the Ship, casting his eyes round
about, to see if he could spy some
Towns or Citie where they might
take harbour: and in looking about
he espied a great spacious Citie, in the
middle wherof stood a mest sumptuous
Pallace, hauing many high Towers standing in the are like
the Grecian Pyramides, the whiche he supposed to be the Pallace
of some great Potentate: therfore calling Sir Lancelot (with
two other Knights) vnto him, he requested them to goe vp into
the Citie, and to enquire of the Countrey, and who was the
Gouernour thereof: the whiche thing they promised to doe: so
arming themselves (as it was convenient, being Strangars in
that Countrey) they went vp into the Citie; where they were
presently presented vnto Prester John, who (being alwayes li-
berall and courteous vnto Strangars) gaue them a royall en-
tertaintment, leading them vp into his Pallace: and having in-
telligence that they were Englishmen, and adventurous kni-
ghts, he sent some of his Knights for the rest of their com-
pany, desiring them in the Knights behalfe to returne to the
Court, where they shold haue a friendly welcome, and a
knighthly entertainment.

Thus when the Red-rose Knight had vnderstood the will of
Prester John by his soure Knights, the next evening with his
whole company hee repairede to the Citie, which was right
noble and faire, and although it was night, yet were the
Streets as light as though it had beeene mid-day, by the cleare
resplens.

Tom a Lincolne

esplendent brightness of Torches, Crests, and other Lights which the Citizens ordained to the entertaining of the English Knights. The Streets through which they passed to goe to the Kings Hallace, were filled with people, as Burgo-masters, Knights, and Gentlemen, with Ladies and beautifull Damells, which in comely order stood beholding their coming. But when the Red-rose Knight was entred the Hallace, hee found the renowned Prester John sitting vpon his Princeely Throne, underpoynt with pillars of Jasper Stone: who after he had given them an honourable welcome, he took the Red-rose Knight by the hand, and led him vp into a large and sumptuous Hall, the richest that euer he had seen in all his life: But in going vp certaine staynes hee looked in at a window, and spyped faire Anglitora the Kings daughter, sporting amongst other Ladies; which was the fairest Mayo that euer mortall eye beheld, and I thinke that Nature her selfe could not frame her like: but being entred the Hall, they found the Tables couered with costly fare ready for supper: when as the English Knights were set at the Kings Table, in company of Prester John and Anglitora, with other Ladies attending (having good Countachs) they fed lustily; but Anglitora, which was placed right over against the Red-rose Knight, fed onely upon his beauty and Princeely behaviour, not being able to withdraw her eyes from his divine excellencie: but the renowned Prester John for his part spent away the supper tyme with many pleasant conferences touching the Countrey of England, and King Arthurs Princeely court: the report of which same had so often sounded in his eares. But amongst all other devices, hee told the English Knights of a Tree of gold, which now grew in his Realme, and yearly brought forth golden fruit but he could not enjoy the benefit thereof, by reason of a cruel Dragon that continually kept it: for the conquest of which golden tree, hee had many times solemnly proclaymed through that part of the Realme, that if any Knight durst attempt to conquer it, and by godes fortune bring the adventure to an end, hee should have in reward the eoz his Daugher the faire Anglitora in mariage: to which many Knights resorted, as well of foraigne Countreys, as his owne Nation; but none proved so fortunate to

ee,

the Red-rose Knight.

accomplish the wished conquest, but lost their lives in the same aduenture: therefore I fully believe, if all the Knights in the world were assembled together, yet were they all vn sufficient to overcome that terrible Dragon.

With that the Red-rose Knight with a bold courage stood vp, and protested by the loue he bore vnto his countreys King, he would performe the enterprise, or lose his life in the attempt: so in this resolution hee remained all supper tyme, which being ended, the English Knights were brought into divers chambers: but amongst the rest, the Red-rose Knight and Sir Launcelot were lodged neare to the faire Anglitora, for there was nothing betwixt their Chambers, but a little Gallery: into which being come, and no sooner laid in their beds, but the Red-rose Knight began to conserue with Sir Launcelot in this manner.

What thinke you (quoth he) of the enterprise I haue taken in hand: Is it not a deed of honour and renowme?

Surely (replied Sir Launcelot) in my iudgement it is an enterprise of death: for every man in this countrey adngeleth you overcome and destroyed, If you but once approach the sight of the Dragon; therefore be aduised, and ges not to this perilous aduenture, for you can obtaine nothing thereby but reproach and death: and doubtlesse they are counted wise that can shun the misaduentures, & keepe themselves from danger.

But then (quoth the Red-rose Knight) shall I falle from my promise, and the promise of a noble mind ought still to be kept: therefore, ere I will infringe my glorie I haue made, I will be revoured by the terrible Dragon; And in speaking these words they fell asleepe.

During which tyme of their conference, faire Anglitora stood at their chamber doore and heard all that had passed betwixt them, and was so surpised with the loue of this gentle Red-rose Knight, that by no meanes she could restraine her affections: and returning to her chamber, calling her selfe vpon her bed thinking to haue slept, but could not, she began to say secretly to her selfe, this sorrowfull lamentation.

Alas mine eyes, what torment is this you haue put my heart into: so I am not the woman that I was wont to be,

Tom a Lincolne

so; my heart is strowed with a flame of amorous distress, and is subiect to the love of this gallant English Knight, the beautie of the world, and the glorie of Chuffendenme. But sond fole that I am, wherefore do I desire the thing which may not be gotten, for I greatly feare that he is already betrothed to a Lady in his owne Country. And furthermore his mind is garnished with princely cogitations, that I may not envy his Loue: and he thinketh no more of me, then on her that he never saw. But grant that he did set his affection upon me, yet were it to small purpose, for he resolved to adventure his life in the conquest of the Golden tree, where he will soon be devoured by the terrible Dragon. Ah, what a grieve and sorow will it be to my heart, when I shall heare of his untimely death, for he is the choice of all Knights, the Prince of Possibilitie, and the flower of manship: for I have heard him say, that he had rather die honorably in accomplishing his towne, then to returne with reproach into England. Whiche happy country, if these eyes of mine might but once behold, then were my soule possessed with terrestriall joys. Anglorora with these wordes fell aslape, and so passed the night away till the day came: who no sooner with his bright beames glistered against the Palace walles, but the Red-rose Knight arose from his bed, and arased himselfe in great courage, ready for the aduenture: where after he had taken leave of the King, and all the rest of his English friends, he departed forth of the Citie towards the Golden tree, whiche stood in a low bally, some two miles from the Kings Palaces.

This morning was faire and cleare, and not a cloud was seene, the elements and the Sunne cast his resplendent beames upon the earth: at whiche time the Ladies and Damsels mounted upon the highest Towers in the Pallace, and the common people came up to the battlements and walles of Churches, to behold the aduenture of this valiant Knight, who as then went most joyfully on his journey, till he came to the bale of the Golden tree, wherein being no sooner entred, but he beheld a most cruell and terrible Dragon come springing out of his holtow Cave. This Dragon was farre more bigger then a horse, in length full thirtie foot, the whiche instantiment as soone

the Red-rose Knight.

soone as hee was out of his Cave, began to raise his necke, let by his eares, and to stretch himselfe, opened his thoate, and casting forth therat most monstrous burning flames of fire: Then the Red-rose Knight drew out his good sword, and went towards him, whereat the monster opened his terrible throat, whereout sprang thre tonges, casting forth flaming fire in such sorte, that it had almost burnt him. The first blowe that the Knight strake, hit the Dragon betwixt the two eyes so sorely that he staggered: but being recovered, and seeing himselfe most grievously hurt, he discharged from his throat such abundance of thicke burning smoake, that it blinded the Knight in such sorte, that he saw no thing: but yet notwithstanding hee lifted up his sword, and discharged it vpon the Dragon where he imagined his head was, and strake so furious a blow, that hee cut off his thre tonges close by their roots: by whiche the Dragon indured such maruellous paine, that hee turned his body so suddenly round, that his tayle smote the valiant Knight a mighty blow vpon his bosome, whereby he fell downe vpon the hands; being thus overthownde, hee was in mind most maruellously ashamed, but after a while, having recovered himselfe, he ran to the Dragon againe, and with his good sword smote such a terrible blow vpon his tayle, that it cut it off in the middle: the whiche piece was seuen foot in length. The Dragon through the great paine that hee felt, came and incontrred the Knight in such a fashion, that he beat him downe to the ground, and alstrode over him as though he had bene dead: but the Knight like his sword, and vnderneath him thrust it vp to the hilt so farre that it pierceth his heart; whiche when the Dragon felt as smitten to death, began to run away with the sword sticking in his belly, thinking to haue hidde himselfe in his Cave, but his life departed before he could get thither. Instantiment, when the Red-rose Knight had resed himselfe, and saw that the Dragon was dead, he recovered himselfe, and went and drew out his sword from his belly, whiche was all to besmeared with his blacke blood, and after tooke the Dragons thre tonges and stucke them vpon his sword; and likewise pulled a branch from the golden tree, whiche hee

Tom a Lincolne

boze in his hand: and so in triumph went towards the Cittie; and being come within the sight therof, hee lifted up the Golden branch unto the ayre as high as hee could, that might glister in the sunne so; the people to beholde, (which stood upon high Turrets, expecting his coming) who perceiving it with great admiration began to wonder. Some there were that gathered grane Verbes and flowers, and crewed the way wheras the Knight shold passe to goe to the Kings Wallace, saying: that all Honour ought to be giuen to so noble and gloriouse a Conquerour.

Faire Anglitora amongst all other, was most joyfull, when she beheld the glittering brightness of the Golden branch, and commanded her yonge maidens to put on their richest attires, to solemnize the honour of that excellent Rider.

And to conclude, he was met at the Cittie gate, with the mede of Drums and Trumpets, and so conducted to the Kings Wallace: wheres he was right honourably entertaines of Prelie John and his Nobles. Surely there is no man so eloquent, that can discourse by writing the great joy that Anglitora tooke at his retorne: and generally the whole Inhabitants had therat exceeding pleasure.

But now when the valiant Red-rose Knight had entered the Hall, and had set the Golden branch upon an Ivory Cupboard richly furnished with costly plate, the English Knights and many other Ladies began to dance most joyfully, and to spend the time in delicious sports till supper was ready, and then the King and the Red-rose Knight was set, and with them, the noble and faire Anglitora, Launcelot du Lake, and other English Knights: where (all supper while) there was no other conference holden, but of the valiant encounters of the Red-rose Knight: who for his part did nothing but make secret love signes to faire Anglitora.

What shall I make long circumstaunces: The supper passed, and the haire came that the generall company withdrew them into their Chambers, the Red-rose Knight was conducted to his Lodging by many noble men and others, whiche brought the Golden branch after him, and so bequeathed him for that night to his glent rest. But presently after the Nobles were

the Red-rose Knight.

menes departe, Anglitora entred into his Chamber, bearing in her hand a Silver Balme full of Marmes perfumed Waters, the whiche she had promisid to wash the Dragons blood from his body: which when the Red-rose Knight perceiued, and thinking upon the kind loue that he proffered him, put of his Clothes, and made himselfe ready to wash. Faire Anglitora being attired in a white Frocke without sleeves, turned up her Smocke aboue her elbowes, and so with her olde hands washed the body of the Red-rose Knight.

But now when this gentle Batcheler beheld her londly Body, her faire and round Breasts, the whitenesse of her fleshe, and that he felte her hands meruelous soft, hee was so much inflamed with the ardent desirs of loue, that in beholding her Beuty, he began to embrase her, and kissed her many times most courtesly: and so after, when he had bane well washed, Anglitora caused him to lie in his Bed, beholding his well swyved limbis, of colour faire and quicke, and could not turne her eyas from his sight: Thus as they were beholding each other without speaking any word, at last the noble Knight spake to her in this manner.

Most deare Lady, you know that by this Conquest, I have deserved to be your Husband, and you, through kind loue, to be my wiffe: whereby I may say, that you are mine, and I am yours: and of our two Bodies there is but one: Therefore I require you to seale by the firme quittance of our loues, which is, that we two for this night, might slape together: and so accomplish the great pleasure that I have so long wished for.

Ah most noble Knight (answered the faire Lady) what in me lyeth (that may byng you the least motion of content) shall with all willingnesse be performed: But yet I coniure you by the promise of true knighthood, that you will save mine Honour, lest I be made a scandall to my Fathers glory.

There is no man in the world (quoth he) that shall preserue thine Honour more then I. What if you slape this night with me in bed, doe you any more then your dutie, in that I am your Husband, and best beloued friend.

My deare loue (replied she againe) there is no pleasure which

Tom a Lincoln

I will deny ye : but for this night , you shall have patience ;
so ; I will never yele up the pride of my dignitomy , till my
father hath given me in mariage : and therefore I desire you ,
that to morrow you will request that fauour at his hands :
whiche being granted and performed , then accomplishing your com-
tent.

When the Red-rose Knight had understand his Ladys
wants , he like an Honourable Gentleman , was content to
obey her request . What shall I say more ? but that the night
comming to the mounted time of sleep , which caused these two
Lovers (for the time) to breake off company . Here slept the
Red-rose Knight till the next morrow ; which at the breake of
day , was presented with a Confess of speckes , which the King
himselfe brought into his Chamber . Their melody so highly
contented his mind , that he threwe them a Gold Chaine , which
was wrapped about his wiste : a gift plaineley expressing the
beautie that beautified his princely brest . The Baskins be-
ing departed , he arose from his rich Bed , and went into the
King , wher he found as then walking in a pleasant Garden :
of wher he reported his Daughter Anglorora in mariage , in
recompence of his aduentures . The whiche request so displeased
the King , that all his former courtesies was exchanged into so-
daine sorrows , and wroth by no meanees consent that Anglorora
should be his betrothed spoule ; and answered : that first , hee
would loose his Kingdoms , before shes should be the wife of a
wandering knight .

The noble Red-rose Knight , when he understand the Baskins
answere of Prester John (all abashed) went unto Sir Launce-
lor , and his other friends , and certifiid them of all things that
had happened : whoe counseled him , that the next morrow they
should depart .

After this constellacion , they went to the King , and thanked
him for the high Honour hee had grace them with : and after
that , went and b-ated their Shipp , wher for that day they
passed the time in pleasure : and so when the scouling night
app-roached , the Red-rose Knight went to the faire Anglorora ,
and certifiid her of the Baskins answere of her cruell father :
wherat shes grewe so wrothfull , and grieved to minde : but

at

the Red-rose Knight .

at last better considering with her selfe , shes yeled her fay-
tunes fully at his pleasure , promising , that for his loue , shes
would for-sake both Cambray , Parents , and Friends , and
follow him to what place shenee bee pleased to conduct her .
Thus it is to be supposed , that this night the faire Anglorora tooke
all the richest Jewels whiche shes had , and strowed them in a
Fayre , and so when it was a little before day , shee came unto
the Red-rose Knight and awaked him : whoe presently made
him ready , and so departed secretly from his Chamber , till
they came to their Shippes : wher they found all the rest of the
English Knights ready to depart : So when they were all a-
board they booke shipp , and departed from the port . To
whiche happy Journey , wee will now leane shes for a time ,
and speake of the discontents of Prester John , whoe all that
night was exceeding sorowfull for the vnkyns answere , whiche
he had given to the Red-rose Knight , and so melancholy that
he could neither sleep ne- rest : but at the last hee concilied
with himselfe , that he wold goo and conney the English Knights
(at their departing) unto their Shippes ; to the end that being
in other Countries , they myght applaud his courtesies vnde to
strangers .

So in the morning hee arose and went to the Chamber
wher the Red-rose Knight was lodged , whom hee found
departed contrary to his expectation . After that , he went in
to his Daughters Chamber , whers hee found nothing but re-
lentlesse walls , which in vaine hee myght speake vnde :
whose absence d-oure him into such a desperate mind , that hee
suddenly ran to the Sea coasts , wher hee found many of his
Citizens , that helpe him the shipp wherin the English
Knights were , which was at that time from the West of
Patten , more then halfe a mile . Then the King (waping
tenderly) demanded of them , if they had seene his Daughter
Anglorora ? To whom they answered , that they had seene her
upon the Shipp Hatches in company of the Red-rose Knight .
At whiche the King bitterly lamented , beating his wyle , and
tearing his milke white Haire from his Head , vsing such vio-
lence against himselfe , that it greatly grieved the Bholders .

At that time there was many of his Lords present , whoe by
gentle

Tom a Lincoln

gentle performances, with pots him from the sea coasts to his
Wallace: where he many dayes after lamented the disobedient
sight of his Daughter.

CHAP. VII.

How Celia the Queene of the Fayrie Land was found dead,
floting vpon the waues of the Sea: with other things that
happened to the English Knights.

Many dayes the waides blew chearfully in such
sort, that the English Ships were within ken,
King of the Fayrie Land: at which Sir Lancelot
tooke an occasion to speake vnto the Red-rose
Knight, and put hym in remembrance how he
had promised Celia to returne into her Coun-
try: unto which he answered, and sayd, That he would kee
promise, if the Destinies did afford hym life. And therupon
commanded the Master Pilot to make thitherward: but the
waides not being willing raised such a Tempest on the sea,
that the Ship was cast a contrary way, and the Mariners
by no means possible could appoach the Fayrie Land. At which
time the noble Queene Celia stood by the sea side vpon an high
Rocke, beholding the English Ship as it passed by, as her maner
was, every day standing, expecting her deare Lores
returne, many times making this bitter lamentation to her
selfe.

My gentle Neptune, thou god of Seas, and waides, where
is my dearest Lores? bring him againe unto me, that day and
night doe wepe for his company. That he complained at the
same instant when her Lores Ship layled by; for surely she
knew it by the Banners and Ensignes whiche were displayed
in the waides: but when the poore Lady perceiued the Ship to
turne from her, she was sope abashed and dismayed. In stead of
say she was forced to weape teares: and in stead of singinge was
constrained to make sorrowfull complaints. In this manner
she abode there all that ensueng night, and caused fires, and
great

the Red rose Knight.

great lights to be made on the shooe, thinking thereby to call
the Red-rose Knight unto her.

This order kept she every day and night for the space of six
waides, wayling the want of him, whom she loued moe deare
then her owne hart: but when the sixe waides were past, and
that the Fayrie Queene perceived that she should haue no ty-
dings of her Lores, she went from the Rocks (all in despaires) in-
to her Chamber; where being entred, she caused her sonne
to be brought vnto her, whom she kisse many times, for the
loue she bothe vnto his Father: and after beholding the little
Infant, crossing her armes, with a sigh comming from the bot-
tom of her heart, she sayd; Alas my deare sonne, alas thou
canst not speake to demand tydings of thy Father, which is
the brauest Knight, the most vertuous, and the most valiant in
Armes that God ever soured. Oh where is Matrice (sister
Dame) that shold enjoy me thes to wape, and my selfe moe
then thes, for the losse of so braue a Prince; whose face I ne-
uer more shall haue! Oh cruell and unkind Fortune! my heart
hath concluded that I ges and cast my selfe headlong into the
sea, to the intent that if the noble Knight bee there bury-
ed, I may lyc in the same Sepulcher or Combe with him: where conterarie wile if he be not dead, that the same sea that
brought him hitherto alise, bring me to him being dead. And to
conclude, before I commit this desperate murder vpon my selfe,
with my bloode I will write a Letter, whiche shall be shewed
to my Westments or attire, to the intent that if ever my bo-
dy bee presented to the Red-rose Knight, that then this bloody
Letter may witness the true loue that I bothe him, to the houre
of my death.

Many Ladies and Damells were in her company whilist
thus she lamented her Knights absence; the hearing of her
desperate intended death, made exceeding sorrow. Some there
were that so mightily grieved, that they could not speake one
word: other some therer were that sought to perswade her
from that desperate intent, but all in vaine: for she yesterye
went from them, and wred her owne bloud with a Letter, and
wrappyd it in a heare cloth, and then sowed it to the Westments
whereth she was clothed: then taking her Cloake, she bound
it

Torn a Lincolne

it from her head with a golde chaine whiche the Red-rose Knight before time has givern her. Then when he has done all this, she came to her little bower, and many times killed him, and so delivered him to the Ladies and Damells to be mowched: & so after taking leave of them all, she departed forward the see, whither being come, she went to the top of the high rocke, wheres she began to looke downe vpon the see, and after casting her selfe vpon the Earth, looking vp towards heauen, she sayd.

Then God of my Fauours, Lord of the winds and seas: thou that broughtest into this Country the right perfect Knight, in beauty, manhood, and all vertues, grant that when my soule hath made passage out of this world, my body may be in fassher in his bosome: which words being sayd, she turned her eyes towardes her Pallace, and spake with a high voyce: And my deare Babe, adie you glistering Knights, my royall Pallace: adie Ladies and Damells: and lastly, adie to all the world; And in saying so she cast her selfe into the see, and thers desperatly drowned her selfe.

But yet such was her fortune, that the waves of the see bore her dead body the same day to the English Knights shipp, whiche as then lay in a Reav where they had cast Anchor: so to rest that night, and to be shoyt, it so hapned at the same houre when her dead body was cast against the shipp, the Red-rose Knight wotan vp the Hatches to take the fressh ayre: wheres looking about he espies the dead Babe richly attayned in cloth of Gold, that gorgioush shone in the water, the whiche he presently caused to be taken vp and brought into the shipp: wheres looking vndly vpon her, he haue her perfectly well: and after hoping to kille her pale Lips, hee found a bloody Letter whiche she had compyled, wript in heare-leath: so, taking it and reading the contentes therof, his blood began to change, and to ware red like the Rose, and presently againe as pale as ashes. Thererat Sir Launcelot and the other Knights were greatly abashed, but especially Anglitora, who demanded the cause of his griefe: Thererat the Red-rose Knight was not able to answer a word, the sorow of his heart so exceeded: yet notwithstanding he delivred the bloody letter to Anglitora, the contentes whereof are thise that follow.

The

The Bloody Letter of Queene Celia.

THou bright Star of Europe, thou Chosen of England for prowesse & beauty, when wilt thou returne to fulfill thy promise made vnto her, that many a day hath had her eyes planted vpon the Seas after thee, shedding more teares in thy absence, then the Heauens containe Starres? Ah my deare Loue, makest thou no reckoning nor account of thy promise that thou madest to mee at thy departure? knowest thou not that euery noble mind is bound to keep his word, vpon paine of reproch and shame? but thou hast infringed it, and hast broken thy oath of Knighthood: which no excuse can recouer. For since I last saw thy shipp floting on the Seas, I never came within my Pallace, till the Writing hercelf, nor never lay in my Bed to take my rest, nor never sate in judgement on my Countreyes causes; but for the space of forty dayes I stood vpon a Rocke, expecting thy returne, till famine constrained me to depart. There haue I stood day and night, in raine and in snow, in the cold of the morning, and in the heat of the Sunne; in fasting, in prayers, in deires, in hope; and finally, languishing in despaire and death: Where, when I could haire no newes of thy returne, I desperatly cast my selfe into the Sea, desiring the gods that they would bring me either alite, or dead to thy presence, to expresse the true affection that I haue ever borne thy noble person: Thus fare thou well. From her that liued and dyed with an unsported minde.

This is my true Loun, till we meet in the
Fayre fields: My unhappy Celia,
Queene of the Fayre Land.

Thus

Tom a Lincolne

Thus when faire Anglorora had read those bloody lines, she greatly lamented her unhappy death: and withall requested the Red-rose Knight, in that she dyed for his sake, to bears her body into England, and there most honorably entomb her: to which he most willingly consented. So carrying her body to be embalmed, they hysled sayle, and departed towards England; into which Country, they within four months safely arrived. At whose comming the Inhabitants and Dwellers greatly rejoiced, but chiefly the Red-rose Knight and his company, who at their first arrivall, knelled downe upon the earth, and gave God thanks for preserving them from so many dangers and perils, to their high remoues, and triumphant victories.

After this, they intombed the body of Celia most honourably as befitted a Princess of her calling. This being done, they departed toward Pendragon Castle, Languing in Wales, wheres as then King Arthur kept his royal Court: where being arrived, they found the King, and many other Nobles in a readines to give them a princely welcome: amongst whom was fayre Angellica the Queen of Lincolne, mother to the Red-rose Knight; yet kept in so secret a manner, that neither he, nor she, had any suspition thereof, but spake one to another as mere strangers: The history of whom is disclos'd at large in the second part of this Historie: as likewise the strange fortune of Celia's little frenne, which the Ladies in the Fayrie Land call by the name of the Fayrie Knight; and by what meanes he came to be called the Worlds Triumph: with many other strange accidents, &c. But now (to conclude this first part) the Red-rose Knight and the faire Anglorora were solemnly married together, and lived long time in King Arthurs Court in great joy, tranquilitie, and peace.

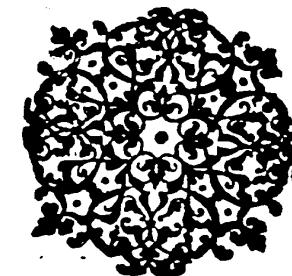
FINIS.

R. I.

The Second Part of the Famous Historie of TOM A LINCOLNE, THE RED-ROSE KNIGHT.

Wherein is declared his vnfornatue
Death, his Ladies Disloyaltie, his Chil-
drens Honours, and lastly his Death
most strangely reuenged.

Written by the first Author.



LONDON
Printed by A. M.

1635.



To the Reader.

Romise is debt (gentle Reader) I haue therfore performed what in my first Part I promised; which was to shew thee the vnfortunate death of the *Red-rose Knight*, his beloued Lady *Anglia*'s disloyall affection towards him, his Childrens Honours, Renownes, and Dignities: and in the period of this Historic his death both iustly, truly, and strangely reuenged: The Reading of which (if with good consideracion) I doubt not but shall bring vnto thee much pleasure and delight, being (for the quantity thereof nothing inferiour to the best that hath beene written of the like Subiect (I meane) of Knights adventures, and Ladies beloued. I therefore dedicate this to thy reason, knowing that this old Proverbe may confirme my expectation, which is, That good Wine needs no Bush: nor a pleasing History craves no shelter. Farewell.

R. F.



The Second Part of the famous History of *Tom a Lincolne*, the Red-rose Knight, &c.

CHAP. I.

How *Tom a Lincolne* knew not his Mother till forty yeares of his age, nor whose Son he was: Of King Arthurs death, and his dying speeches, and what hapned thereupon.

Then Arthur; that renowned King of England (being one of the nine Worthies of the World,) had by twelue severall set Battalys, conquered the third part of the Earth, and being wearied with the employes of Marciall Adventures, in his old daies betooke himselfe to a quiet course of life, turning his martiall habillaments, to divine Bookes of celestiall meditation; that as the one had made him famous in this world, so might the other make him blessed in the world to come. Seven yeares continued quiet thoughts in his brest: seven yeares never heard bee the sound of delightfull Dittymes; nor in seven yeares beheld he his thrice worthy Knights of the Round Table, flourishing in his Court: by which meane his Valiance grew dismishid of thase Martiall troopes that drew commendations from all foraigne Kingdomes. In this time most of those renowned Champions had yielded their lives to the conuicting Tyranny of pale death, and in the bowells of the earth lay sleeping their eternall sleepes; the royall King

Tom a Lincoln

Sing himselfe lame with the boaster of many yeares ; and having now (according to nature) the burcher of death lying beane upon his sholders : and the stroke liften vp to divid his body from his soule, hee called before him all the chiefe of his Court : but especially his owne Quene, the Red-rose Knight, and his Lady Anglitora, with the faire Angellica, the Queene of Lincolne, whom hee had so many yeares secretly loued : and being at the point to bid a wofull farewell to the world, with countenance as pale as King Priam of Troy, hee spake as followeth.

First, to thys my loued Quene, must I offer the secrets of my very soule, and what wanton escapes I haue made from my nuptiall Bed, otherwhere cannot this my labouring life, de- part from my fading body in quiet: Long haue I liuid in the delightfull game of Amour, and palliated our Marriage Bed with that vile pleasure: pardon I beseech the, and with that sorghitnesse (which I hope will passe from the gentle heart) walke away this long byed entill, the Celestiall powers haue granteed me remission. Then turning to Angellica the Queene of Lincolne, hee said.

By thou my youths delight: thou whose loue hath bereaved my Quene of such Marriage pleasure: thou, and but esily thou, haue I offended withall: therefore dinne Angellica, forgiue me: I like a rauisher spotted thy Virginity, I cropt thy sweete body of Chastity: I with flattery won thy heart, and led thee from thy Fathers house (that god Earle of Lardon) to seere my wanton destris: by thee had I a Sonnes, of whom both the and I, take glori of; for in his wothiness remaine the true Image of a Partialist; and this redonored Knight of the Red-rose is he: Yes itnes: the fruit of our wanton pleasures, dwelle at Lincolne, and there by a shope heard byoughe sp, few knowing (till now) his true Parents. Separately not deare Sonnes: thinke not amisse sweet Quene: no; thou my louely Angellica: Be not dismayed you housea- ble states, here attenning my dying houres: for as I hope presently to enter into Elizium Paradise, and weare the Cloathes of vassellall Clo;g, I haue revealed the long secrets of my heart, and truely byoughe twight those things that the dache-

the Red-rose Knight.

darknesse of oblivion hath couered. Now the Mother knowes her Son, the Son the Mother. Now may this baltant Knight boast of his Podegrace, & a quiet content satisfie all your doubes. Thus haue I spoke my mind, and thus quieted, my soule bids the world farewell. Adon faire Quene, adon deare son, farewell louely Angellica; Lords and Ladies adon unto you all: you haue seene my life, so now behold my death: as Kings doe line, so Kings must die. These were the last of King Arthurs wordes: And being dead, his death not halfe so amazed the Rauders by, as the strange speeches at his lynes farewell.

The Quene in a raging tealousie fretted at her marriage wrongs, protested in her heart, to be revenged upon the Son of Lincolne.

The Queene of Lincolne seeing her wantonnesse discovered, tooke more griesse therat, then joy in the finding of her long lost Son; supposing now, that (the King being gone) he shoule be made a scandall to the world.

The Red-rose Knight, knowing himselfe to be begot in wantonnesse, and borne a Bastard, tooke small joy in the knowledge of his Mother.

Angellica (Tom a Lincolnes Wife) creede all the rest in sorow bitterly sobbing to her selfe, and in heart making great lamentation, in that she had forsaken Father, Mother, Friends, Acquaintance, and Country all for the loue of a Bastard, byed in the woube of a shamelesse Scruppet: therfore she purposed to giue him the slip; and with her owne Sonne (a young gallant Knight, named the Blacke Knight, in couraige like his Father) to trauell towards the Kingdome of Prester John, where she first breathed life, and her Father reigne.

In this melancholly humour spent they many dayes, trou- bling their bynesse with divers imaginations. The Court, which before rung with Delights, and flourished in gallant sort, now thundred with Complaints; every one disliking his alone estate: Discontent as a proud Commander go- verned over them, and their Attendants were idle Fancies, and disquiet thoughts: and to speake trouth, such a confused Court was seldom seene in the Land; for no sooner was King Arthurs funerall solemnized, but the whole troupe

Tom a Lincolne

of Lords, Knights and Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, were like to a Glittering City for by (the Tempest of the Sea) scattered, every one departed whither his fancies best pleased.

The Red-rose Knight conducted his Mother Angellica to a Cloister in Lincolne, which place she had so often polluted with her shame, there to spend the remnant of her life in repentance; and with her true lamentations, to wash away her blacke spots of shame, that so grievously staineth her soule: who from a pure Virgin, made her selfe a desolate Strumpet.

Likewise, King Archurs wedded Queen, like to it selfe Hecuba, in the yeare of Iune, kept her Chamber so many dayes, pondering in her minde what reuenge hee might take upon Angellica her husbands late fauorite.

On the other syde Angloria Labe and wife to the Red-rose Knight, with her Sonne the Blacke Knight, made preparation for their departure towards the Land of Prester John, where she was borne: so upon a night when neither Sonne nor Starlight appeared, they secretly departed the Court, secretly atteneded on by a Negar or Black-more; a Slave fitting to provide them necessaries, and to carry their Apparell and Jewells after them; whereof they had abundant faze: The Blacke Knight her Sonne, (so calld rather by fierce courage, then his blacke complexion) was all fered with the ardent desire that his hand to see his Grauor Sir Prester John: therfore without taking leave of his Father (being then absent in the company of his lewd Grauor another) with noble spirit conducted his Father to the Sea side, wher a shipp was ready then to herte Dayle, wher of the Pilots they were most willingly receyved for passengers. And in this manner departed they the Land, the Blacke Knight tooke en his boord met for a scutchion, a blacke Ramon feding on dead mens flesh; his Caparisons were all of velvet embrodered, which most lively figured forth the Blacke faine lodged in his princely boordme. Angloria his Mother, had the attire of an Amazon, made all of the best Arabian silke, colourred like the changeable Hus of the Ratnebore: about her necke hung a Jewell of a wonderfull value, whiche was a Di. amond cut in the fashion of a Heart split aunder with a Tur-

the Red-rose Knight.

his Semiter: Detokening a doubt that she had of her Knights loyalty. The Quaile Moore that attended them, went all naked, except a shalow of gréne Lassata which covered his priue parts: vpon his foot a spozischo Shoe, which is nothing but a Soale made of an Asses hide, buckled with small Leathers to his insteps, vpon his head hee wore a Mantel of Cypres gilded with pure gold, and a Plate of Brasse about his necke close locked, with the word Bond-sauue tigranen about it. In this manner passed they the Seas, and was by these strange habits wondered at in all Countries where they came: In which travells we will leane them for a time, and speake of other things pertinent to our Story.

CHAP. II.

Of Tom a Lincolnes strange manner of trauelling, his wofull departure from England, and of his sorrowfull lamentations for the unkindnesse of his Lady.



Then Tom a Lincolne (the Red-rose Knight) had spent somwhat two moneths in the Compagny of his Father at Lincolne, giuing her as much comfort as a sonne might, hee left her very penitent for her lynes amiss, and returned to the Court, wher hee left both his wife and her Son, the Blacke Knight, thinking at his arrivall, to find so temful a welcome, and so courtious an entertainment, that all the blacke clouds of Discontent might be blisone over by their happy meeting: but as ill chance had allotted, all things fell out contrary to all expectation; for he neither found wife, Child, Servaunt, nor any one to make him answer: his Plate and Treasure was diminisched, his house-hold furniture, imbeselled, and by Thanes violent-ly carried away, he had not so much as one steed left in his horable, for them the Queene had seazed on for her use: and furthermeare (by her commandement) a Decree was made, that whome

Tom a Lincoln

whosefuer in all the Land shewes him any waye to gome him
but honeste reverance, shuld lose their heads, for this had in
titled him, The base borne seed of lust, a Strumpets brat, and
the common shame of the dead King. This was the malice of
King Arthurs widow: and forsyng Queens Ione never thralles
gnoys for the confusyon of Hercules, then shes did fy; Tom a
Lincoynes swertym: But yet this griele (being cast from a
Princys fauour, to a vulgar disgrace) was but a pleasure,
to the sorrows he tookes for the misse of his Lady and Sonne:
No helnes raid he heare from them, but that they were ded
from the fury of the angry Queens: which was but a vaine
Imagination layd upon the envious tyme: but farre otherwile
did mischefe set in her foot, the doting wimbe of his Lady An-
glicora intended to a further reach; which was to abandon his
presence for ever, and to thinke him as odious to her sight, as
the killing Cockatrice. The effect of this his Wifes sudden
dillire, shes has caues (before her departure) to be caues in
stone over the Chimney of his lodging, how that She deserved
damnation to leaue Father, Friends, and Countrey, for the dis-
loyall loue of a Bastard.

He all grieves to him this was the very sping, the roote,
the depth, the height: which when he had read, he fell into
a sound, and had it not been for two Pages that attended him
he had never recovered: in this agony the vaines of his
breast spoyng out into blode, and all the partes of his body
swote with griele: downe fell he then upon his knes, and
immediately pulled the Ring from his finger which she had
given him when they were first betrothed, and woulde it with
his teares, killing it a hundred times: all that ever he has
stain her did he wash in the blode that trickled from his bo-
loute, and after bound them in a Cypress to his left eye, di-
reccly where his heart lay, protestynge by that God that crea-
ted him, and was the godde of all his passed fortunes, never
to take them thence, till either he found his Lane, or ended his
lifs. He likewise made a solemnis bole to heauen, never to
cut his Haire, never to come in Bed, never to weare shooes,
never to take fred, but onely Meale and Water, nor never to
take pleasure in humeratis, till he has easd his griele in the
pysance

the Red-rose Knight.

presence of his dearest Anglorora, and that her loue were recon-
ciles to him.

Being thus strangely resolved, he discharged his Ser-
vants and Pages, giuing them all the wealth that he had, and
clad himselfe in tann'd hec-plyns, made close vnto his body,
wherby he seemed rather a naked Wylde man byed in the
Wilderesse, then a sensible creature brought vp by ciuill con-
uerstion. This bare-skyned, and bare-legged, with an Iauey
Sax in his hand, he set sorwfull to seekes his unkind Wife,
and vniaturall Sonne, giuing this wofull farewell to hisna-
tive Countrey.

Oh you c. leſtiall Powers (quoth hee) wherefore am I pa-
nished for my Parents offences? Whyle is their secret sinnes
made my publick misery? What haue I mis-done, that my
Wife reschedly me, and like a discouertous Lady forsakes me,
making her abs. nee my preuent calamity?

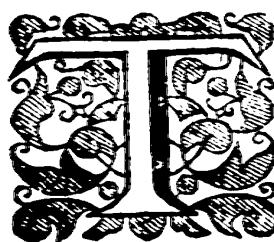
Oh thou gracious Queene of Loue, I haue beene as loyall
a servant in thy pleasures, as euer was Hero to her Leander,
or Pyramis to his Thisbe: Then what madding fury, like
a cruell commander, hath taken pession of my Anglor-
ora's heart, and placed infernall conditions, whereas the pure
vertues of model behaviour had iron'd to bee barboned? It
cannot bee otherwise, but the enraged Queen with her va-
queritable Enis hath dynen her henc; and not stelye of
one heart made two, but of two stekes to make none; which
is, by vniemy death, to wroake both our confusyon: there-
fore proud Queen, farewell: let all the Furies haunte thee,
and may thy Court seeine as hatefull to thy sight, as the fo-
ments of Hell, to a guilty Conscience. Ungratefull
England likevise adieu to thee, for all the honours I haue
brought into thy bounds, and with the spoyles of foraigne
Countreyes mad thee the onely Prince of Kingdomes: yet
thou repayest me with disgrace; and lead'st me with moze
contempt, then my never conquer'd heart can indite: so hil-
ling the ground with his warme lips, that had so long fo-
cked him, and with many a bitter teare and depps sob, like
a Pilgrime (as I sayd before) he tooke leane of his native
Countrey, and so went to the sea shs: where he heard of his
Wife

Tom a Lincolne

and his houres departure, after whome (as soone as the
waine conveniently serued, he toke ship boord : where we will
also likevise leue him to his fortune upon the see, and speake
of the proffected malice the Queenes proffected against Angelica
the mother of the Red-rose Knight.

CHAP. VII.

Of the wofull death of Angelica, Mother to the Red-
rose Knight, and of the death of the icalous Queene
and others.



The beauteous Angelica being left
by her Sonne, the Red-rose Knight,
(at his departur) in a Monasterie at
Lincolne, thereto bewaile her former
offences; and so, her youths pleasure,
in age to tast the bitter swa of sorrow:
the day-tyme shee spent in grieved pa-
sions, the night shee wasted with sighs
and heart-breaking sobs: She fed on
carefull thoughts, her drinke was stremes of salt teares: her
companions, thoughts of her passed wanton pleasures: her bed
no better then the cold earth: her sleepes were few, but her com-
fests lesse: her continuall exercise was with a needle to werk
in silke, vpon the hangings of her Chamber, hys he was first
wood, then wonne to King Arthurs pleasures, in what manner
their meetings were, their wanton dalliances, his imbraces,
her smiles: his princely gifts, her cantuous acceptance:
and lastly, the birth of her thrice wroth Sonne, his bringyn-
gyn, his honours in the Court, and his straunge discouery: all
which shee had brought, as an Arras woorke, with silke of
varie colours, in a piece of the purest Holland cloath. In doing
this, twice had the golden Sonne runne his circumference a-
bout the wold, twice had the pleasant Spring beautified the
Earth with her changeable mantles, twice had nipping Winter
made the felds barren, and the twome leafelote, and twice had
the yeare shewed hymselfe to all mankind: in which time of
twice

the Red-rose Knight.

twice twelve months, every day made shes a sorrowfull com-
plaint for the wracke of Honour, and her Virginities losse,
which so willingly shee surrendred: and in this, so greatly had
sorrow and grieve changed her, that her eyes (which had shone
like twinkling Diamonds to gire light to all affections) were
now sunke into their Cels, and shamed like a hollow Shep-
herd new opened: her face, wherein Beautie her selfe dwelt,
and her cheeks the true die of the Lillie and the Rose inter-
mixt, now appeared old and withen, like to the countenance of
Hecuba when her Husband King Priamus, and her princely
Children were slaine at Troyes destruction: and her tresses of
Gold and the Dayre, which like to Indian wipers hang over her
shoulders, were now growne stroze white then Chiffons downe,
the fuckles of frozen Ice, or the white mountainis snowe: all
these grieses of nature had not age changed, but the inward
grieses of her carefull heart.

But now marke the wofull chance that hapned, even vpon
the day, which by computation shee had in former times yielded
vp her Maydens pride, and last that Jewell that Kingdomes
cannot recover: vpon that happle day, came there a messenger
from the Queene, to bid her make preparation for death; for
on that day shold be her liues end, and her fortunes period:
which shee most willingly accepted of, and tooke more for there-
at, then to be invited to a princely Banquet.

Be not dismayed (said the messenger) for you shall haue as
honorable a death as ever had Lady: seuen severall instru-
ments of death shall be presented to you for a chioise, and your
sworne tongue shall giue sentence which of them you will die by:
whereupon this messenger set this sorrowfull Lady at a round
Table, directly in the middle of a very large roome, (whereinto
he had led her, hys all about with blakde: where being placed
as to a Banquet, or some soleinne Diner of state, there en-
tered seuen seruitours in disguised shapes like unto Marth-
ers, with seuen severall deadly seruices in Dishes of Silver
plate: The first brought in fire burning in a Dish, if shee
would, to consume her body to ashes: The second brought in
a twisted Coard, to strangle her to death: The third, a
Dish full of deadly poysen, to burst her body withall: The
fourth

Tom a Lincolne

feare, a sharpe edg'd Marrow; or Knife, to cut her throat: The fift, an Iron ijacke to teare her body into small pieces: The sixt, a Dishfull of iue Snakes to sting her to death: And the seventh an impoysoned Garment, being iwoyne, that will con-
sume both fyfe and blood. Whiche seuen deathfull Instruments
having set downe theyr Dishes (the least whereof bringes pre-
sent death) She was commanded by the Messenger, which of
them she shoulde chose to die withall, and to make speddy chalfe;
soe he was iwoyne to the Quene (on whom he attended) to see
it that day accomplished. At thes his wodds she fell present-
ly upon her knees, and with a courage ready to yeld to death
sore, then to the marke of the living Quene, sayd as fol-
loweth.

By thou grider of this earthly Globe, thou that gatst
my weake nature ouer unto a wanton life, and from a Virgin
challe, hast made me an infamous trumpet: thou that sufferest
only a King in Spayefie to penuile against me, and with the
power of greatnesse boun me to leydnesse; for which I am
now doomed to a present death, and forced by violence to the
this tempted world atue; Inspire me with that happy choice
of death, as my soule may haue an easie passage from my body.
First, to die by fire, to an earthly imagination semes terrible,
and far different from nature: Secondly, to die with strug-
gling cord, were base, and iugre fitting for robbers, thure, and
malefactors: Thirdly, to die by deadly poyson, were a death for
beasts and boomes that feed upon the bosome of the earth:
Fourthly, to die by cutting knyfes and sicing razors, were a death
for cattle, swines, and fishes that die for the use of man:
Fiftly by an Iron ijacke to end my life, were a barbarous death
and against mans nature: But seuerally to dy a linging death,
which is a life conuixing by wearing of impoysoned garment,
(whose repentance may still be in company) will I chuse:
Therefore sweet Messenger of my death, for thy office, abyde
me in these robes: and the manner of my death I desyre the
make knowe unto the Quene: tell her (I pray thee) I do
glorie her; and may my death be a quiet unto her soule, for my
life is to her eares as the fall sound of night Rauens, in the
peruaines times.

maine

the Red rose Knight.

Walne world, how must I leue thy gatting iuicements,
and instead of thy pompe and glorie, must shottly tread the
dolefull march of pale death: and this body that hath bene
so pleasing to a Princes ey, must be surrendred by my
worries to ffece upon. Many other wodds would she haue spa-
ken, but that the commanding Messenger (being tyed to an
houre) caused her to put on the impoysoned Robes, which no
sooner came to the warmth of her body, but the godd Lady as-
ker a few bitter sighes, and deadfull gaspes yelde by the
Ghost; being (through the extremite of the infectious Gar-
ment) mads like to an Ananarie, which they wrapped in
Deare cloath, and the next day gaue her burial according to
her estate, and so returned to the enraged Quene, keeping
then her Court at Pendragon Castle in Wales, into whose pre-
sence the Messenger was no sooner come, but the angry Queens
beyond all measure being desrons to haire of Lady Angel-
lica's death, in a rage ran and clasped him about the middle,
saying.

Breake messenger speake, is the vile trumpet dead? Is
the shame of woman-kind captur'd? Is my hearts griefe by
her death banisched my beseeche: speake so I am ouermastroo
with doubt.

Most gracious Quene (quoth the Messenger) resolue your-
selfest her death; for the cold earth hath inclosed by her body:
but so patiently tooke she her death, that well might it haue
moved a Ligers heart to remorse; so in trich my heart re-
lented at the maner of her death; But went Lanbe moe-
gently to the Daugther, who never Curle-done vse moe make,
then this wofull Lady was at the message of her death: for
the Elementis bid semis to mourne closing their bright beauties
by th blacke and sable Curtaines; and the very flutie wals
(as it wers) sweate at the Agonic of her death. So gentle,
meeke and humbly tooke she her death, conuincing her selfe.
Unto your Spayefie, wishing that her death might bee your
soules contentment.

And could she be so patient (quoth the Quene) that even
in death woulde with happiness to the causers thereof: fare-
well thou mirracle of woman-kind, I haue beseve to thee a sa-
vage.

Tom a Lincoln

grys Lisenesse: I was blinde at the report of thy wantonnesse, else had then borne note alive: all my crueltie against thee, I now deeplye repente, and for thy deare hearts blod by me so rashly spilt, shall bee satisfied with the lynes of many soules. Veraypon, shee in a furie commandeth the Messengers heade to be stricken off and the seven Sheritors to bee hanged all at the Court Gats, and afterward casted their limbis to be set upon highe Poles by the commone high wayes gds, as an example of her indignation.

Soone after this houre (such is the remoule of a guiltie conuience) could the deups in quiet, but strange visions of this Lady (as shee thought) seuer to appearre to her: the least noise that shee heare whispering in the silenes of the night, did shee imagine to see some Ferie to drage her to Hell, for the death of this good Lady: the minnes (as shee imagined) remouled frome Renenge, the running Riuers hummed sowth Renenge, the synging Fowles of the Ayre whistled out Renenge: yea every thing that made noyse (in her conceit) gaue remoule for Renenge: and till that her owne life had gauen satisfaction by death for the cause of so swet a Ladys life, no fowle could doe her good, no deupe quiet her mynd, no pleasure content her minde, but Despaire with a terrible countenance, did exernore attend her, willing her sometime to throw her selfe headlong frome the top of a Loyer, sometime by poison to end her dayes, sometime by dyving, sometime by hanging, sometime by one thing, sometime by another: but at last in the middle of the night, hauing her heart deeplye overmastered by despaire, shee tooke a Girdle of pure Arabian Silke, which Girdle shee first wore on her Princelye Chappell day when King Arthur married her: this fatall Girdle shee made a sidiing knot of, and therewithall upon her bed pou the hanged her selfe. Thus blode (you see) being guiltie shed, is quitted agaist with blode.

The Queene being dead, was not so much pitied of the people, as the good Lady Angellica, little lamentation was made for her death; for every one expected the like untimely ende: but according to the alleageance of Sabies her Goblemen gaue her a Princelye funerall, and set ouer her an

Iron

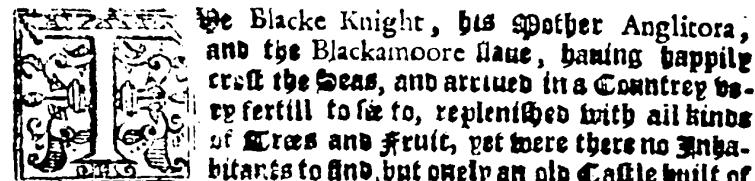
the Red-rose Knight.

Iron tombe, in signification that shee had an Iron heart, and flinty conditions.

Here will we leane the dead to their quiet rests, and returns to the Black Knight and his Mother Anglorora, with the Indian slave that attends them: for strange be the accidents that happen to them in foraigne Countreyes: and after we will speake what hapnes to the Red-rose Knight upon the sea.

CHAP. IV.

By what meane Anglorora became a Curtizan, and how her Sonne the Blaue Knight lost himselfe in a Wildernesse.



THE BLAUE KNIGHT, his mother Anglorora, and the Blackamoore slave, hauing happily cross the seas, and arrived in a Countrey very fertill to see to, replenished with all kinds of Trees and fruit, yet were there no inhabitants to find, but onely an old Castle built of flint stones, the Turrets whereof were made like the Grecian Pyramides, square and very high: At this Castle gats they knocked so boldly (each one carelesse of all accidents that might happen) as it rung into the Chamber where the Knight of the Castle lay: whoe immedately sent a very low statir'd Dwarfe to see whoe knocked, and if they were strangers to direct them by into his Chamber, to take such kind courtesies as the Castle afforded: for indeed he was a Knight of a honeste condicione, and full of liberallitie. The Dwarfe no sooner comming in the Gats, and espyning people in such strange disguised attires, neuer hauing seene the like before, without speaking one word, ranne amazedly by to his Master, certifying him that a kynge of people of an unknowne nation was arriued, and that they seemed rather Angells (in shape) then any earthly creatures.

The Knight of the Castle hearing this, camis downe and met them in a large square Court paved with marble stonye wher-

Tom a Lincolne

where hee kindly gaue them entertainment, promisynge them both lodgynge and other needfull things they were desirous of.

The three Travellers accepted of his courtesies, and being long before weather-beaten on the seas, thought themselves from a deepe dungeon of calamities lifted to the top of all pleasures and prosperitie; thus from this pauid Court the Knight led them vp to his owne Chamber, whereto was a bre made of Juniper wood and Frankincense, which smellede verie sweet: the walls were hung about with rich Tapestrie, whereon was witt the Story of Troyes destruction, the Creation of mankyn, and the searshall description of the latter day of Dome: likewise hang vpon the same walls Instruments of all sorts of musike, with such varietie of other pleasures, as they had never scene the like.

Now while these weary Travellers take pleasure in beholdeing these things, the good Knight caused his Dwarfe (which was all the seruants that hee kept) to couer the Table, made of Cypresse wood, with a fine Damaske table-cloth, and thereon set such delicates as his castle afforded, which was a piece of a wild Boe, rostid the same morning, with divers other seruices of fowles, wherof the Country had plentie: Their bread was made of the Almonds mixed with Goats milke (for no coynge grew in this isle) their Drinke of the wild grape, likewise mingled with Goats milke, whiche is in my mind accounted restorative: to this Banquet were the Travellers placed, where hauing good stomacks, they quickly fassid hunger, and after began to chat of their adventures what dangers they indured by sea, and how luckily they attined to that country, giving the courteous Knight great thanks for his kindness.

On the other side, when the Banquet was ended, every one stagg from the table, he tooke an Ophirian that hung by, and caused his Dwarfe to dance after the sound thereof: the strings whereof he himselfe strained with such curiositie, that it moued much delight, especially the Lady Anglora, whose eyes and eares were as attentive to the Melody, as Hellens were to the enchanting spottcks of the Grecian Paris. In this kind of pleasure consumed they most part of the day, till the

the Red-rose Knight.

The bright Sun began greatly to decline, then the Blacke Knight in a couragious spirit, said.

Our Knight (for so you same to be by your entertainment of strangers) this Carpet kind of pleasure I like not, it disaigras with my young desires the hunting of unarmid Eggers, the Tolls and Turnaments of Knights, and the Battels of renouned Warriors, is the glori I delight in: and now considering no other adventurous exercise, may be found in this Country, but onely the hunting of wild beasts, I will into the Forest and by manhood fetch som wild Beastes for my mothers supper.

The Knight of the Castle (saying his resolution) furnished him with a hunting Baselin, and so directed him to the Forest, where most plentie of such pleasures were: God be his good speed, for we will leave the Blacke Knight in his exercise, and speake of the wanton affections of Anglora, and the Knight of the Castle that they cast vpon each other: a shott tale to make, whereas two hearts make one thought, the bargaine is soone made: the Knight of the Castle having not had the presence nor secrete of a woman in seueral yeres before, grew as wantonly minded as the Roman Tarquinius, when he ravished the chaste Lady Lucretia. On the other side, Anglora hauing the vencme of disloyaltie, grew so pliable to his desires, that at his pleasure he obtained that lone which in former times the Red-rose Knight aduentured his life for; she that in former times was accounted the wroldes admiration for complaycie, was now the very wonder of same, and the by-word of modell spalitens: this was the first dales entrance into their wanton pleasure, which in all dalliance they spent till the Sun had lost the sight of the earth: then expecting the returne of the Blacke Knight from Hunting, they late as devyely as they had binne the chastest livers of the wrold; not a glance of wantonnesse passed betwixt them, but all modell and civil behavours; in this sort stayed they attending for the returne of the Blacke Knight. But all in vaine: for having a wild Panther in chace, he followed so far in the vnderworne Forest that he lost himselfe, all that night trauelling to find the way forth, but could not; for ge

Tom a Lincoln

was to him as meat to a sick man; his steps were unumbered, like the starres of heaven, or the sands of the sea: he durst not recouerie little presented, the further he went, the farther he was from returning: thus day and night (for many dayes and nightes) spent hee in these comfortlesse travallles; no hope cheirid his heart, no comforte had him company, but his patient minde: and now at last, when he saw all meanees frustrate, he resolved to live and die in that solitarie forest: his food had made of the fruits of trees, his drinke of the cleare running water, his bed was no better then a heap of Sunburned Rose, his Canopies the azure Elements full of twining lights, his Curtaines a row of tyche branched Trees, the Earthes to light him to his bed. the Starres of Heaven, the ayde of patience to bring him alaxe, the croakes of Rascals, or the fearefull cryes of night Owles: the Clocke to tell the houres of the night, were hissing Snakes, and Toads crackling in fogge grasse: his warring Cocke the chearefull Piggelinges, & the cheryng Barke: his compa-
nions on the day, were howling Wolves, rauering Lions, and the wrythfull Boates: all (as the fates had decreed) as gentle to him in fellowship, as people of a swill government: so, to say trath, time and necessity had converted him to a man of wrythfull conditions: for his haire was growne long and swaggey, like unto a shryke; his flesh tanned in the sunnes as an Indian; the nayles of his fingers were as the talentes of eagles; wheresoever hee could easly clumb the highest Trees: garments hee had not any, for they were wrythe out, and as willingly was he content with nakednesse, as in former times hee was with rich habilitaments.

Thus liued hee for seuen yeares in this desolate forest, by which time hee was almost growne out of the favour of a man: where soe a time hee will leane him, and prouede to other accidentes: also he will ouer-passe the lewd lines of Anglorora and the Knight of the Castle, nor speake as yet any storie of their seuen years adulterie: for numberlesse were the knyfes committed by them in those seuen yeares, in that accursed Castle.

CHAP.

the Red-rose Knight.

CHAP. V.

How the Red-rose Knight found his Lady, and how he was most strangely murthered, and buried in a dung-hill.



The Blackamore Slave (as you have heard) attended vpon them like an obedient Servant, and shewes all duty and loue, till Anglorora gave her body to the spoile of lust, and from a vertuous Lady converted her selfe to a ha-
ted Strumpet; whiche vile course of life when the Indian perceived, hee secretly departed the Castle, greatly lamenting the wrongs of his master, the Red-rose Knight, whose noble minde deserved better at her hands. Day and night travayled the poore Slave towarde England, thinking to finde his master there, and to revele that whiche hee thought hardly wold be belived by hym: wearey and opprest with heare, yet went hee this long Journey: many Provincees hee passed thezow before hee could leare the way towarde England: and then was hee lassate from it as at the first, when hee departed from the Caule.

The labouring Husbandman grieved not moare to see his Cowe and Cattell taken by Thernes, nor the Merchant to heare of his shippes sunke at sea, then did this Indian at his batow travallles, and wearisome Journeyes to small purpose: so at last settynge syward againe, he came to the sea, thinking to heare of his shipp to gine him passage ouer: but alas, one steele falls after another, one mischies cometh vpon the necke of another: and one mischance leueth his purpos alone: so as this true-hearted Neger good beholding holt the brawnes of the sea beat againt her bankes, and the whalefishes lay wallowing in the flaines, behold such a trumpet suddenly arose, that by the force thereof the poore Slave was cast into the sea; but by reason of his kinke baile tyed about his middle, and his great skill in swimming (as most Negars bee perfect thereto) kept himselfe from

L 2

dyow.

Tom a Lincoln

swimming : and as god seytes wende, the same tempest drove the weather-beaten shyp to the same shore wherein the Red-rose Knight (his master) was, which shyp had bene seven yeares upon the sea in great extremitis, and before this tyme com no never sic land. By that tyme the tempest ended, the shyp floated to land, wherein was left but slyly the Red-rose Knight in his Palmers wred (so all the rest were starved up for want of food) who being weake and feeble, climbed up to the top of the Hatches, where when hee had perceiued the Negar labouring for life upon the waters, cast out a long stord, and so saved him: whom when the Red-rose Knight saw, and perfealy knew, hee fell alwold into a trance for joy, supposing his Lady and Sonne not to be farre distant: but recovering his former sensess, he spake as followeth.

Oh blessed Neptune, hast thou boughsaled to deliuer me from the depth of thy bowels and cast me on land, where once againe I may behoide my faire Anglora, and my deare Sonne, the Blacke Knight. These seven yeares famine indured on the sea, hath bene a sweet pleasure to me, in that the end bringes me to my deires. Full threestore of my misericorde Companions in this shyp, hath death seased upon, and through famine haue eaten one another, making their hunger bowels grases for the other Carballles; and though now this belly of mine (like the Canibals) haue beene glutted with humane fleshe, and this mouth of mine tasted the blode of man: yet am I as pitifull as the tender hearted Mother, forgetting her Sons offences: and to my Anglora will be as kind, as if never she had trespassed: no; like the Grecian Helena, left her married Lord: So taking the Blackamore by the hand. She demanded of her welfare, and in what estate his Son remained: The true hearted Negar could hardly speake for griefe, or after one wo: for teares: yet at the last with a wofull sigh hee uttered forth these heart-killing speeches.

Oh my noble master (quoth hee) by you from a Pagan I was made a Christian: by you, from a heathen nation without ciuitie, I was brought to a Land of princely government

the Red-rose Knight.

worment; and by you, till my departure, was I maintayned in good maner: therefore if I shoule prove a perjured slave, and a false warter towards you, my body were worthy to bee made food for hungry fowles of the ayre, and for the tawnyng Beasts of the fields: wherefore nowe considering that dutie bindes mee to it, I will reueale such wofull chaunes, and such disloyall trickes shewed by your Lady as will make your heart tremble, your shewes shake, and your haire to stand upright. Anglora your Lady and wife, hath dishonoured your bed and polluted that sacred Chamber of secrecie, which none ought to know, but onely you two: That mariage wher shee made in Gods holy Tempyle, hath shee infringed, and broken the knot of baptiall promise: in a Countrey farr frome vidence hath shee wrought this hated crime, in a Countrey unpeopled lies shee in a Castle, whch is kept by a Knight of a wanton demeanour; there liueth they two in adultery, there liueth they secretly sleeping in wantonnesse: and therfore these seuen yeares hath shee made her selfe the childe of shame: All this with extreame griefe doe I vsold, and with a heart almost kilde with sorrowe doe I breath out the dutie of a servant: if I haue offended, let my death make amends: for what I speake is truely deliuered from a heart unsainted.

All this tyme of this his sorrowfull Discourse, liued the Red-rose Knight in a bliter agonie, like ons newlote dropt from the cloudes, not knowing how to take these discourses: one while purposing to bee reneged, and with his nailes to tear out the trumpets eyes: another while, bewraying her weake nature, that so easily was won to lewdnesse: but at last, taking to him (the vertue) patience, hee resolued to traueil to the Castle, and with his meke perswasions sake to win her from her wickednesse, and to forget, forgive, and cast out of remembryance all these her unwomanlike remeaneours, obserwing the Proverbe, That faire meanes sooner winnes a woman, then foulre. That in company of his true servant the Negar, hee tooke his iourney toward the Castle; where (after foure moneths traueil) they arrived, the Red-rose Knight, by the directions of the Negar, knocked, and in his pilgrimes habite, desired meate and lodgynge for himselfe and his guide.

Tom a Lincolne

The gate that opened the Gate, was his alone Lady, which immediately, upon the sight of them blushed, as though some sudden fear had affrighted her; yet dissemblingly (colouring her knowledge of them) shes in a charitable manner gave them entertainment, and conducted them to a by room at the backe of the Castle: into which place she sent them (by her Dwarfe) victuals from her owne Table, with a command, that the next morning they shold abore, and never more trouble this place.

This message sent by the Dwarfe, much disquieted the Red-rose Knight, and drove such amaze into his mind, that he grew ignorant what to doe: And seeing his appointed time very shott to remaine there, he new thought fit to strike whilst the Iron was hot, and to discover what he was: so taking the Scarfe of Jewells and Rings tyed to his left side against his heart (which she knew perfectly well to be the gifts of her Love) and by the Dwarfe sent them her: The which no sooner shewd her, but she openly said to the Knight of the Castle, that their secret affections were discovered, and her husband in the habit of a Palmer made abode in her house, conducted thither by the Moore, to bring their shame to light, and to carry her thence to England, there to be punished for her Saines. Whereupon the Knight and she purposed the same night to rid themselves of that feare, and by some violent death send the Palmer to his last abiding. Disquietnesse attested on all sides for that day, and every houre seemed ten, till night appoached; which at last came, though long lookt for. Then Anglitors in company of the Knight of the Castle, like vnti Murtherers rose from their beds, even at that houre of night when mischieves are acted, when no noyse was heard but the barking of Winkles, the howling of Dogs, and the crackling of spight-booles, all assiance to blakie action: In this manner came they into the Lodging of the Palmer, who for wantesse of his Jewelles, most soundly slept, little dreaming that such cruelly, could be lodged in the bosome of his wedded wife: one whose loue he had first gained with great danger, and alwaies regarde as deare as his owne heart blood. All signes of duty

had

the Red-rose Knight.

had she obscured, not any remembrance had shee of womanhood: Marriage loue was forgotten, their passed joyes were as things never bee: not any thought of remorse remained within her; but the more cruell then the more deliuered Beare, or the Tyger starued for meat, by the helpe of the Knight of the Castle, took the Scarfe of Jewells (sent her from him the same evening) and by violence thrust them downe the Palmer's throat: by which meanes they bereaved him of life, and without any soleritie due to so brave a man, they buried him in a Dunghill without the Gate, not shewing so much as one teare for his death: so great was the enuie of this his spitefull Lady. The poore Negar they set vp to the middle in the ground so surely fastned, that by any meanes he could not stir from thence, where was will caus him wishing for death. The Red-rose Knight, or rather the unhappy Palmer, in his unchristian like Graue, and the Knight of the Castle with the multyhercile Anglitors, to their surfecting Banquets of loue, and returnes to the Blakke Knight, which had lost himselfe in the Woods.

CHAP. VI.

How the Blakke Knight being lost in a wildernesse became a wild man, how his Father's Ghost appeared vnto him, and in what maner he flew his owne Mother.



In this time the Blakke Knight grew so naturall a Wild-man, as though he had bene byed in the wildernesse: for day by day he sported with Lions, Leopards, Tygers, Elephants, Unicernes, and such like kind of beastes, playing as familiarly with them, as in King Arthur's Court he had done with gallant Gentlemen. But marke how it happened one day abone another: he chanced to walke downe into a Waller, where hee left himselfe alone by the Riuers side, and in humane complaints bewailed his stote estate, how being boorne and byed of a

Princely

Tom a Lincolne

Princely Race, descended royally, shoud thus consume his dayes in sauge soft, amonst wilde beasts, and by no meanes could recover his libertie, or free himselfe from that solitary Calibene. Being in this distresse of mind, a suddaine feare assaid him, his heare stured, his haire stood upright, the Elements seemed to looke dimme, a terrible Tempest tosse by hys trās, the Wilde Beasts roared and gathered on a heape together, Birds fell lineelle from the ayre, the Ground as it were trembled, and a sodaine alteration troubled each thing about him: in this amaze sat he a good tyme, māculing what shoud ensue: at last there appeared (as he imagined) the Ghost of his Father newly mortuor, with a countenance pale and wan, with hollow eyes (or none at all) gliding up and downe before him: casting such fearefull strones, as might make the stoutest heart in the world to tremble: and at last, setting himselfe before the Blacke Knight, spake as followeth.

Feare not my Sonne, I am the Ghost of thy murthered Father, returned from Plutons hallow Region; I came from that burning Kingdome where continually flamas an everlasting furnace: from the segrefall pitte come I to thee for reuenge: Oh thou my Sonne: if ever gentle Nature were poynt in thy bosome: if ever thou tookst pleasure to heare thy Fathers honours spoken of: if ever thou desiredst to haue thy life meritorius in this world, take to thee thy never-failing Courage, and revenge my death upon thy adulterous Mother: thy spother now living in the Sithynesse of France, making the Castle wher she now remaynes in, a lustfull stewes: there was I murthered, and theres buried in a knycking Danghill: no man gaue me fūterall teares, nor any seruiced for my death: I that haue daied Death in the face, and purchast Honour in many Kingdomes, was faine by my owne Wite, by my neare Friend, by my second selfe, by Anglorum, by her whos the whole world aspires for vertue. Kylle (deare Sonne) rise, and haue thee to that Castle polluted with the name of thy wicked Mother: kylle I say, and let the parements of that Castle, be spynked with their detested bloud, the bloud of that spōnter that hath

the Red rose Knight.

hath not only despoiled my mariage bedes of divers nities, but like a tyrant to her owne selfe hath murthered me. Haue how the angry Heavens (as it were) haue threaten my Revenge: haue the holy Hell-furies haue helpe and reuenge for Revenge: my wifes Adulterie at the hand of herauen haues Revenge: my blāsing soule (Oh my Soule) haundeth in vngret paths, till thou workest Revenge: my death and murther eries (as did the bloud of Abel) haue Revenge: then feare not (Sonne) to set it, for duty, loue and nature bindez thee to it. By Heaven, and by that greate thinniall Thoare of heppynesse: By that loue Kingdome of eternall paines: By the hys watrey sp̄es I p̄t to haue her: By Earth and by the soules of all the mortall men that ever lyed, I command, charge, and command thee to persecute in this Revenge: Hence to that fūle perfidie Cambis, defamed by Adulterie, defamed by Spōnter, there to my herte doe thy louest duty; there binde thy crased spōthers brest, there sacrifice her illes bloud, there approue the fāthers Ghost innocent with fūre, so shall thy herte in thy enter the feldes of faire Elyzium: But if thou beves colvardlike, and through feare deyn to execute my plaiers Revenge, from this day henceforth shall my pale man, leane, and withered Ghost with ghastly lookes, and fearefull sp̄es, pr̄ue and follow thee. These were the words of his Fathers Ghost: and having spoken these words, with a gretur greare, he dandled. At this his suddaine departure the Blacke Knight cryed with a loud and scaffull voce, saying.

My noble Father, say; Oh say thy halley bōpes: once me let me haue this speake. Whither ḡest thou? Oh let me haue thy bōpes againe: It shall not be, he is banished; and my Mother sp̄es is a shame to all our generation. Oh thou shame of womayred; Oh thou blody Tyrant; Oh baptisit act: Oh beastly desires: Calvrie shall I haue finde a place to shew teares in: for my heart is rent intāfer, in thousand pieces, and the terror of this ded, is too intolerable. Rest they in peace, swete Father: thou in the hys werte both wise and valiant: thy vertue, wisēom, and maner

Tom a Lincolne

you leave the very enemies to loun the : Oh then, what
fortune haft thou, to die by the friendly trust of the owne
wife, my Villgall Mother, thy narell friend yow'd thy
greatest enemis, and by a Villgall malice, that heart was
killed, that millions of foes cou'd never burnt. Oh swete
Red-rose Knight, most happy haft thou beeze to haue dyed
in the fieds of bloody warre, and seat a thy lynes quittance
amangst renowned soldiers : then haft thy deare bane
more honorable, my wicked Father haft not murthered
thee, nor I haue intent to take such bloody vengeance, as I
intend (deare Father) for thy sake : for let me never breath
one day longer, nor view the next Mornings rising Sonne :
let me never live impysoned in this Wildernes, for nothing
prosper that ever I take in hand, and here let the woode
end, if I cease to prosecute a mostall Reuenge, as the soule
of my Father hath comandred. Hereupon he set forward
toward the Castle, conduced by what chauice the Heavens
had allotted him : not one stepppe he knewe right, nor what
course to take to finde the direct way : but it hapned, that
an ignis fatuus (as he thought) of a going gies, led him the
right way out of the foyet directly to the Castle where
his dishonest Mother mased her abode. But comynge nare
 unto the Gates, he stand all clost, and were with the Castle
the Blackamore set halfe way quicke into the earth, having
(for want of fode) eaten most part of the flesch from his armes:
whom the Blacke Knight sonne digged vp, and kept aliue, to be
a furtherance to his intended reuenge.

The poe Indian, being thus happily preserued from
death, revealed all that had hapned in the said Castle : how
his Mother liued in adultery, how his Father was murthered,
why himselfe was set quicke in the earth, and lastly, for
the loue of his dead Father, he yoynted to conduce him
through a secret vault into the Castle, that in the dead of
the night they myght the reuege accomplish their desired re-
uenge : Thus lirning secretly about the Castle till the
middle of night : a (time as they imagined) to haue the fitter to
their tragical busynesse : at last the midnicht houre came,
and through a secret Cell they entred under the Castle into
the

the Red-rose Knight.

the Lodging where his Father was murthered. This is the
place (quoth the Negar) where my sad eyes beheld thy fa-
ther both aliue and dead ; so going from thence into the
Chamber (which by chauice, and as ill lucke has appaynted)
was through negligence left open, hee quicke from the Bede
whers these Admiterers lay secretly by each others
Armes, Oh dolefull sight, This lust, haue moe thy father-
lesse, and ere long this Weapon shall make me murthered :
so knelling downe vpon his knees, in a whispering manner
he said vnto himselfe. Yes lowing Destinies, now weare
up the Webbe of their two lynes that haue liued too long.
You infernall Furies, dwelle neare : Assit me then reuengefull
God Nemesis, for on this Woode sits now such a glazious
Reuenge, as being taken, the woold will applaude me for a
louing Sonne. Having spoken these wordes, hee sheathed
his sword vp to the hilles in the bosom of the Knight of
the Castle, who lying in the armes of Angloria, gane so
deadly a grome, that he immediately awaked : first looking to
the Knight that was slaine in her Armes, then perceiving her
Sonne standing with his weapon dwalne ; yet winking in the
blood of the dead Knight, menacing likewise her death, with
a wosfull shike he bryeathed out these wordes,

Oh what haft thou done my cruell Sonne ? Thou haft
slaine thy mistrate of humeris; and one whom I haue chosen
to be my hearts Paramour, and thy second Father.

Oh Lady quoth the (Blacke Knight) for Father is too
proud a title for thee : what Ferie dwelth thee to lament
the deserved death of that loude blood boder, and not ra-
ther chose with heart-renting sighes, to bewaile the death of
my Father, thy renowned Husband, whose guiltlesse body, even
dead, thou diost despise, by burring him inhumanly vpon a
dunghill ; but heaven hath graunter, and Earth hath agreed,
detesting both thy misdeedes, and hath sent me to sacrifice thy
blood vnto the soule of my murthered Father. Whilke hee
was speaking these wordes Angloria arose from her bed, and
in her smock (which was of pure Cambricke) shee kneeled to
her sonne vpon her bare knees, saying.

Oh thou my deare Sonne, whom once I nourisht in
my

Tom a Lincolne

one powertul woombe, and see the both minis stony blood,
whom oft I choicely drested in my armes, when with
unables and sweet tades I rocked thy al-ye : I farrre he
it from thy (my lossing Soule) to harme that beast, for om
whom thou fift regnent life : Of the (my sonne) thy
Mother beggynge life. Oh spate the life, that once gaue the
life, with bleeding teares, I see confess the wyttes offend-
ces, I doe confess though me the fader dyed : Then,
if confession of faults may merit mercie, parowd my life. Oh
scare not thy renowne with cruelty, making thy felse unkinde
and monstros in warthering of thy Mother. I charge
thee by thy dute that thou owel me, by all thy bondes of
loue betwixt a fother and a Sonne : by all the knyt, yle
shewes to thes in thy infancie, let thy mother live that by
thee vpon her base bokes : Doe not thou gloze in my miseries :
let not my fcares wot on thy crudite : let not thy hande bee
bent to death and warther : be no sauge fother : be not汝
naturall, rude and bratish : let my inreates perteine to save
my life : rescund not the woombe that farrred the, fabled now
I tearemed wicked, by onely foulding the ; wyt the bright
his eyes with gazing on his Parents woombes, and will not faint
in beholding them.

Perchance the Blakke Knight not able to忍れ to fride his
fathers farther intreaties, left pliace and remaynke right
moltifid his herte, and so grant her life (whid to Heaven to
take away her has deeply swoyns) has cat her at last spile
dearly wrode.

Laþ, I am fiet made of flint nos Germane, in like regard
of calamite, I am almost stracke with remorse : but
dalle most quide thidre all oute : King will weare against
kunde, all the powers of my body bee conceptuall stiffe, and it de-
te to confound eare other. Here comes to kyng : Nature
turnes to mythe, and Dutie to flouence : for me thidre
my fathers Wised with a greaming voice, cryes to Heaven
for Redengis : thereto to appaile my fathers angry pinte,
that thou feld by thy dearest stede. There was hee rea-
dy to strike, and with his stede to finish up the tragete:
but that his grieved soule in furee nature plucked backe his
hande :

the Red-rose Knight.

hem: wherupon with a greate stgh he laid.

Oh Heavens how am I grieved in mind. Father lou-
gise me, I cannot kill my fother. And now agayne, me
thinks I see the pale shadwe of my fathers Ghost glideng
before mine eyes: me thinks his fawnes are the mister of
his murther: me thinks his angry looks threatnes me
and telis hee that my heart is posset with cowardise, and chil-
deth fears: Then toll preuale. Oh fader evn now receive
this facrifice of blod and death; this pleasing facrifice which
to appease thy troubled soule, I bears vne after. And thus
in speaking these wordes, with his sword hee spilt the deare
heart of his mother; from whence the blod as from a gush-
ing spring flied. Whiche when his bridle, such a sudden
conceit of griefe entred his mind, considering that hee had
slaine his swyne fother, whom in duty hee ought to honour
above all living beynge, that hee rather fell into a trappe than
a mulercholp: and so with a pale countenance and gilty
looks, with eyes sparkling like to a burning furnace, began to
talke tode.

What haue I done: Whom hath my bloddy hande mis-
shered: hold hee not to say Ioul to; I am indee then the
viperous blod that spouts out their Daunnes woombe to
gote life unto thes felidre: my deit according to hatred, it
against all nature; for I haue ringen vp the bofones that
farrd gave me life. Oh wicked kyng, before that I now
hide my head for I haue shewen my selfe in killing her; I
have staind this Chamber here with Iounane blod. The
Heavens abyde me, for this deed: The world remembred
me for this murther, on farrre farrre will folloyn me with
fame and feryour: The Goddes attred in fayre (methinks)
sits my compaine, over thidre arme in my diffidnes: I see
my fother come with a blid deyng, thidringe come-
fent to my fader. Oh then haue fayre, come to folloyn
me, towarde me not a fute, for the heath of Engleme to fol-
low upon my leggs. Redengis, where art thou? I haue foun-
thee out: I will ge ffele, Ie ffele the blode a cubit in the
world I haue thee not, Ali ffele ffele Pegasus, and ffele
the manfion place of Iolens, I will ransake all the couers of

Tom a Lincolne

the skie, I will shew before the sunne, the stonis, and stottes: then leving heauen, I will goe like say Dis-
puce in the leathseue poole of Hell; there in Pluxes Court
will I binde blacke Cerberus by his chaines, the triple-hea-
den Holowm, that porter of hell gates, because he let Dis-
puce passe from thence. In this stantike so I ran he by and
notoues the Chamber, and at last with the rayles of hisingers
he fel to graue upon the stoni walls the picture of his
spother - imitating Pigmalion, hoping to haue life breathed
into the same. Speane while the poore Indian with fleschles
armes heaved up towards Heauen, and on his bare hanes,
made his supplication to the Godis, for the Blacke knightes recov-
ery of his wits.

Oh you angry Heauen (quoth hee) rauske your heauy
domes, forget this crime, forgiue this unnatrall murde:
pity the state of this distressed Knight, and send some meanes
to recover his sensis. Then bright Lampe of Heauen, thou
eternall light, although in Justice we haue deserved thy wrath,
yet let my prayers, my never ceasing prayers, my hearts
venting sighes, my eape infouzed Teares, weake some
remoule from thy incensed ire, that either his Knight may re-
cover his lost sensis, or let him free from death. Thus in a zeas-
long manner prayed the poore Negar, desiring God to lay the
Knights farron upon his head, and reclaine his babylid
rage: whiche prayer was soone regarded by Heauen, for the
Blacke Knight haue immediatly his madnesse turned into a sad
melancholly; and in a more gentle maner made his sad lamenta-
tions, as you shall heare in the next Chapter.

But now the Negar, that all the time of Angloras my-
ther stood in a trance, began now a little (considering the fright
he took at the Blacke Knights madnesse) to summon againe to-
gether his naturall sensis, and perceiuing the unchaste Lady
dead, cold, pale, wan, lying weltring in her gaare and the blood
of her false heart (shed by her owne childe) all bespinkled about
the Chamber, sayd as followeth.

Now (quoth the Negar, betwixt life and death) haue you
thoune your selfe a cuttfull Sonne, and nobly revenged the
death of your Father. These were the last words of the poore

Indian

the Red-rose Knight

Indian, whiche as then stooke downe, and never after breathed:
Thereupon came forth the Dwarfe of the Castle, with great
stoe of treasure, proffering the same to the Blacke Knight;
who nothing thinking after conteinismente, refused it, and withal
all tooke the Dwarfe in satisfaction for the Negars death, and
crammed the treasure downe his throat; and after buried the
two seruants together in one Graue. This being done he dig-
ged vp his Fathers body from the Dunghill, and brought it to
the chamber where his mother lay, and after in an Abby yard
belonging to the Castle, he buried them both likewise in one
Graue. This being done, hee kneeled therupon, and made his
complaint in this maner.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Blacke Knights melancholly lamentations ouer the graue
of his Parents; and of other things that hapned.



Oh thicke happy for evermore be this ground
that containes the bodies of my unforunatue
Parents: for this Earth hath received the
swest Darling of Nature, and the onely de-
light of the whole world; the Sonnes of
Christendome, and the glorie of Mankind:
Oh thicke happy be the grasse, that from henceforth shall
grow upon this Graue: let never helthe touch it, nor crasty
lurking Serpent with venemous breath, or deadly person,
hurt it: Let no Lyons palues, nor Beares foot, tread vp
on it: Let no beasts horne in any manner abuse it: Let
no Birds with pecking, no creeping filthy Wereworme, no luit-
ters nipping frost, no nightly faling Doves, no rage of
the parching Sunnes heat, nor Starres haue-power from
Heauen, nor seafall Tempest nor doryble Lightning in
any manner annoy it: Let no Plough-man draine hither his
weary Oren, nor Sheperdes bring hither their Sheepe,
lest by the Bulles rage it be harmed, or by the harinjse
Sheepe it be eaten: but let it soe euer grow, that the display-
ing thereto may reach to Heauen: and may from henceforth
this

Tom a Lincoine

This Gravē be euer accompanē fācēd: and may the ēchill
be euer spānted with fīnest Clāfers. ſome good man
open this Gravē ſet a burning Capēr, that thē loſeray
my ſelfe of my heart, I may beat my breſt, till my fūlles
bare brūcken the ſkinne from my body; and that my ſoulē
may bearē them compayning into Elizium. Come you þe aſon
ſlēſtly Satyres: Come you friendly Rawnies: Come you
Fayries and Dryades, and ſing ſweet Epitaphes; lift up your
voices to Deamen, and let your paſſages be in the honour of
my Parents: my ſelfe like a wan, pale, and dead man, will
bearē you compaynē: I will bearē the world with my com-
plaints: I will make hōgs ſtreames with my teares;
ſuch ſtreames, as no bankē shall barre: ſuch ſtreames,
as no Droughē shall dry. But alas what doe I meane to
repeate these leſſell lamentations: ſince my deare Parents
be dead: ſince from the world they are parted: ſince they are
buried without ſolēnitie: ſince my delights are all incla-
ſed in the Ground: yet will I ſtill here make my com-
plaints, though no good eale conuey thereyn, adding teares
to teares, and ſorrows to ſorrows. By frowning. Po-
tane. By bimby ſtretches. By curles by that euer I
did this deere, for now no leſe, no knowledge, takes their
unſenſible būles of my grieſes: in this Gravē there is no
ſeeling: in Death eſte to no pufie ſake. By thon Silen-
tus thou comandere of these quiettaſtes, helpe mea purg-
heyleſſe ſale to thy teares: for my religion, for my deu-
otion and Counties ſake helpe me: refue let me haue ſome
comfort to my ſorrows, ſo let me in Death bearē my Pa-
rents company. By þe ſcere what torment I ſuffer; how
my heig特 tremble, how my eyes ſtein with teares, how my
breath is with teares paine, how my ſoule is full of boſte,
þe anguylſh wāl this þen look, and yet it little grieues theo
to ſee it. By thon blāck Knight, ſom hencethon ſeale
þe ſcere to þe ſcere, ſome to be deckt with flowers,
ſome to be mynted in Grēne, for the þrest flowers are
blighted: By Englaund are decayed: my deare Parents
are tw̄ natrually bereft of life: their ſweet bodies thou
þerboſt, and in thy ſcere deliuered them as ſoo þuo
þo, þuo

the Red rose Knight.

Woznes. Therefore thou exell Earth, hōtels and meane,
þou art unworthy of ſuch blētēd bodies. And now, þy
þou pitiful Weameſt, hearē my complaints, conuey them
to the ſoules of my deceaſed Parents: ſo my lamentaſt
ſtands by the gentle Clāfers, are bleſſen from the Eaſt wi-
th the West: the dry Land, and the wettry Deas, are wi-
thelſe to them: Therefore no day ſhall riſe, but it ſhall hearē
my complaints: no night ſhall come, but it ſhall giue care wi-
th my moanēs: neither day nor night, ſhall be free ſtēm my
heart-breaking cryes. If that I groane, mee thinkes the
Trees are bended, as though they pitied my teares. The
very Ground (þo) grieſe I ſee altars her complexion. All
that I heare, all that I ſee, all that I ſeet, giues ſteſh
increaſe to my ſorrow. I will neuer henceforth come in peo-
plede Lowne, neuer inhabited Cittie, but wonder all alone by
wode deane by lowe Wallages, and ſleepy Reckes: or I will
dwelle in darkē Dennes ſrequentē onely by Wylde Beastes,
where no path of man was euer ſeenie, or to the Woods I
will goe, ſo darke, and baſet ſo thicke with thadde branches,
that no Sunne may ſhine there by day, nor no Starre by
night may be ſeenie. Whereas is heard no boſce, but the out-
cries of horriblie Gohlings, the baſefull Whikes of Night-
cules, the unlykis ſounds of Rauens and Crows; there
shall mino eyes be made watry Fountaines; there will I
make ſuch plaintes, as Beasteſ Hall mourne to hearē them:
ſuch plaintes will I make, as Hall rend and rive strong trees,
make wilde Panthers lame, and mallike hard flinty ſtones:
And if by chance that Deere oppreſſe mee, on the bare and cold
Ground ſhall these broſſel limbs reſt: the greene turke Hall,
ſerue as a Pillow for my head: boonghes and branches of trees
will couer me: and then I hope, ſome venemous Serpent will
ſpeedily giue mee my deathys wound, that this my þre ſoules
may be released from blāck and blōod: by which meaneſ I may
palle to thone ſoules, thone ſaies Elizium Fields, whereas
my marthered Parents dellily reſoſt. In this manner com-
plained the Blāck Knight upon his Parents grāte, thre
dayes and nights together, till dwelinge upon the cold ground
and could not by any imagination bee conſolēd: every thing

Tom a Lincolne

his eyes beheld, remembred fresh sorrow and weiu on new lamentations: but at last, the Powers of Heaven intensing to graunt him some ease, cast his distressed soules into a quietumber: where lying byon his fathers graus, we will let him be; a time rest.

CHAP. VIII.

How the Fayerie Knight came to be called the *Worlds Triumph*,
Of his ariuall in England, of the two Knights deaths, and of
the Prouerbe vied of three Cities in England.



On hauis read in the first part of this Visio[n], how the Fayerie Knight, the Sonne of Celia, begot by the Red-rose Knight, was committed (by his mother at her death) to the keeping of the Ladies of the Land: for then was there but few Men living, being a Countrey onely of Women: and now being of lassie age: and a Knight of renowned valour, he betwixt himselfe to travell: the onely cause to finde his Father, & some of his kindred whom he had never seenne.

Spang were the Countries he passed: but moze the dangers he indured: all which for this time, we comis: onely a little speake of thre guisets giuen him by an Hermite, that had thre exceeding Mervars: for comynge to an Iland to seekes adventures, it was his chance to laue a yonge beautifull Spayden from: ravishing by a satyricall Child-mans: for he hauing tyed the golden locks of her Haire to two knotte brambles, and being ready to take his veneral pleasure upon her, the Fayerie Knight comynge by, and seeing that dishonour and violence offred to so yonge a Virgin, with his sword at one blis, paiced away the Child-mans head, and so went with the Spayden home to her Fathers house, whiche was an Hermiteage some mile distant off: where being no sooner come, but the good old man, hauing a Head more white then siluer, but a heart moze heatier then Lead, by reason of the booke:

the Red-rose Knight.

want of his daughter, so cruelly taken from him began at her sight to be so chare, that he had not the power (soz ioy) to speake in a good space, but at last, taking the Fayerie Knight by the hand, he led him to an inward roomme, where he banqueted him with such cheare as his Hermiteage afforded; and after in lieu of his daughters reschew, he gaue him thre such Gifte, and of thre such vertues, as the like seluome had Knight. The first was a Ring, which whosoeuer did weare, shold never dye by treason. The second a Sworde; that on what Gate soeuer it stucks, it wold presently fly open. The thrid and last, a biall of such Drinke that whosoeuer tasted therof, shold sodainely so get all passed sorowes.

Paning received these thre Gifte of the god old Hermite, he deparcked, and travellled without any adventure till he came and found the Blacke Knight alixys vpon his fathers Graus: which when the Fayerie Knight had awaked, in sondernesse they were so alixys, as Nature had made them both one, (soz iadair they were Brothers by the Fathers side, the one true borne, the other a Bastard) yet at the first sight, such a secret affection grew betwixt them, that they plighted their syrthys each to each other, bowing neuer to part friendshys. But when the Blacke Knight had reuealed his birth and parentage, his Fathers name, and place of birth, the Fayerie Knight resolued himselfe, that he had found a Brother, as well in nature as condition: But when he heard the story of his Fathers life, and the manner of his death, with the murther of Anglia: by his unchaste wife, he could not chose but shed teares, whereof plenty descended from his faire eyes: whereupon he tooke occasion to speake as followeth.

Heauen rest thy sweet soule (my unknowne Father,) and may the fruite of thy proue as famous in the world as thou hast been; but moze fortunate in their Marriage choys: As soz my Stepmother, though her unchaste life haue made her infamous to all Mankinde, yet this in charitic I desyre, that when shes comes to Plutos Realme, that Prosperine may send her to the blessed fields of Elizium; in remembrance of whom, in this world, (if ever we arrive in that noble Countrey of England where my Knightly Father was boorne)

Tom a Lincolne

hym) was full there stood her a stately Combe: yet no Captain shal from her viceroyall life, nor the cause of her death: only in Letters of beaten Gold, shall remaine in, graven vpon her Combe, the name of, Anglorora Daughter to Prelter John, and Wife to the worthy Red-rose Knight. Whereupon hee gave his new-found Brother (the Blaue Knight) his Moll of Drinke which the Hermite had given him: who ne frane had talke, but all former graces were forgotten: he remembred not the death of his Father, nor the marther of his Brother, nor what sorrow hee had suffred in the Wallernes: but like a forconde Knight, gryt his Sward round about him, and stood on Choynes till hee was set forward to seeke Partiall aduentures. Whereupon these two Knights departed toward England, and performed many noble deeds of Chivalrie by the way: But amongst all others, being in the Turkeish Court (this is worthy to be noted) sy: with ons Wore of the eare, the Blaue Knight killed the Turkes Sonnes Rakes dead: for which cause, by treason were their lynes conspired, and the following night, had their Lodging entered by twelue of the Turkes Guard, with an intent to murther them: but by reason of the incchaunted singes, in the whiche they put both their litle singes, the Guard of a sodas fell all falt in a tracore: whereupon the two Knights departed the Turkeish Court. But no sooner were th y out of the Cittie, but a troupe of armid Knights pursued them, and followed them so nearely, that they were foyred to enter a Castle that stood by the sea side, wherin no creature abydeth: coming to the Gate, the Fayrie Knight with his Sward smotke therat, and it presently opened: wherein being no sooner entred, but the armid Knights of the Turkeish nation sisco them fathm, and caused the Gates to be sealed vp with free Stone, and so yated. sy: where these two Knights in this danger of death, then cast their bad brewe in all their lures: and full toars had Barued, had ne god politis y-ferrey their lures: for the Cittie wallies were so high, that none daid venture to come without great danger. In this greatest streanly, maner iut is the quickeste ioyntien: so the two fangys sat in all the joynt from their

the Red-rose Knight.

their heads (which were very long) and therewhile made a long twisted Line of Cord, with the whiche they gane from to top of the wall to the ground. But this mischance hapned; as the Fayrie Knight gleded downe, the Cord broke, and his body tooke such a violent blow against the hantle Ground, that it stricke the breath quicke out of his body, no life by the Blaue Knight could be perceived, but that his soule was for ever divised. This of all misfortunes, was held the extreamest; therfore in great grieve he breathed forth this lamentation.

Oh you partall Fates (quoth hee) Oh you vniuersall Deallies: Whyn haue you left two lynes by wounding one? Now let the Sunne forbeare his wonted light, let Heate and Cold, let Drought and Hystarre, let Earth and Ayre, let Fire and Water, be all mingled and confounded together: let that old confusid Chaos returne againe, and here let the Auloploene. And now you Heauenis this is my request, that my soule may presently forfiske this flesh: I haue two soules of mine alone, for it is the soule of the Fayrie Knight, for bat one Soule is common to vs both: then how can I live, haing my soule departed, which spightfull death hath now separated? Oh then my knyghtly brother, though the Fates deny to gye thee life, yet in sight of them Ie follow thee. You Heavens receyue this halie soule of my true friend and let not life and death part vs; with Eagles wings will I fly after him, and in lones celestall Ayreone to ne with him in friendship. The two in life were but one, one will, one heart, on: mind, one soule made vs one: one life kept vs both alial, one bairn, bairn, bairn, as the other ones death: these foyre, as the fourthe in one, I will be by in leue; and on one Chayre he may inter betwixt bodes: how glorioys and happy were my earth, to die with my belovid friend: Behold doe I lauch this life in living plane to heare my deare Brother: whereupon departing his wod veray frond his lise, he layd.

Oh then we all escaped, vpon thou shal be the inseane, to ride: my lufe from this prison of lye. Whi saith vnsained, Of hand of sacred friendship; I am resolued both with the force of Heart, herte, and armes, to gye my Heart deathly

Tom a Lincolne

deadly wounds ; for now my noble Fayrie Knight, this blood I offer vp unto thy soule. But being ready with his sword to pierce his owne heart , he saw a lively blood spred in his friends face , and those eyes that were so dolefully closed vp , began neit to lobe abroat ; and the countenance that was so pale and wan, recovered a fresh complexion ; whereupon the Blaice Knight stayed from his desperate resolution, and from a bloody tragedian , became ths reconciler of his brothers life ; who after a while , began to be perfect sensible : so binding his blyssed bones together, they went a shipboard upon a ship that lay at Anchor at the next Port, making for England, so the next morning (the tyme servid well) the Pilots boyled Eagle, merrily floting on the waters.

Two weekes had not pastid toward the finishing of a yere before they arrived on the Chaulkie clifts of England ; upon which they had no sooner set footeing, but with their warme lips they gently kissed the colde earth. This is the Land of promised glorie (said the Fayrie Knight) to find this Land I haue indured many miseries : to finde this Land I haue pasted many Countries, and in this Land , must I seale vp the last quittance of my life, here shall my bones rest, for I am lawfully descended from the loynes of an English Knight : peace be in my end, for all my dayes haue bene spent in much trouble.

In such like discourses left they the shre fles, and traualling further into the Land, they met with one of King Arthurs Knights, named Sir Launcelot du Lake, so old and lame that though his brynses in chivalry, he seemed rather an impotent creature, then a Knight at Armes ; yet at the sight of these two aduenturous Knights, his blood sermed to grow young : and he that before could not march a mile on foot for a King, now went as lusty as any of the two other Knights did. First came they to London, where for their Fathers sake they were (by the Gouvernours) most gallantly entertained : the streets were hung round with Arras hangings, and Capes, Orie works : Pageants were boylid vp in every street, the Conduits ran with Wine, and a soleyme Holi-day was then proclaimed to be kept gearely upon that day. So speake of Banquets prepared for them, the Tilts and Turnaments,

last leg maning and
first leg, presumably
blank, are away, otherwise
perfect

Brown Quarto

25 Ferguson

17. vii. 1914

